

Hafa Adai!

LibDay Committee kicks off preparations. **PAGE 2**  
Subaru recalls 500,000 vehicles. **PAGE 4**

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## Four vying in special polls

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**F**ormer representative Donald Cabrera Barcinas of the Democratic Party and Marco Taisakan Peter of the Republican Party managed to beat Friday's deadline for filing their candidacies

» **Re-electionist Barcinas, Peter beat deadline for filing candidacies**

for the special election for a Precinct 3 seat in the House of Representatives.

Four candidates are vying for the lone precinct seat in the March 23 special election. The two other can-

didates are David Castro Sablan and Mariano DLG Fajardo.

See **FOUR** on **Page 4**

'Saipan back to 100-pct., 24-hour water'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saipan customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. are now back to 100-percent, 24-hour water supply islandwide, according to CUC deputy director William Gilmore.

"We are very happy with the way things are. We know there

See **SAIPAN** on **Page 4**

'Broken immigration system hurting NMI'

By **JON PEREZ**  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) hopes the 116th Congress could reach a compromise on a bipartisan legislation that would fix the immigration system, saying it is adversely affecting the CNMI.

In a speech delivered on the U.S. House of Representatives floor last week, Sablan said a comprehensive immigration reform is needed since the broken system is hurting the CNMI and its people.

"In 2013, the Senate passed a com-

See **BROKEN** on **Page 4**



Commonwealth Utilities Corp. chair Miranda V. Manglona presides over a board meeting last Thursday at the CUC conference room. During the meeting, CUC's acting chief financial officer Corina Magofna discussed the financial impact of Super Typhoon Yutu on CUC in the first quarter of fiscal year 2019.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The devastation caused by Super Typhoon Yutu last October greatly af-

fected the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s revenues, resulting in a shortfall of \$7.2 million—a 26-percent drop in revenue for the first quarter of fiscal year 2019.

During Thursday's CUC board meeting, the utilities agency's acting chief financial officer, Corina Magofna, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the financial impact of Yutu

that struck Saipan and Tinian last Oct. 24 and 25.

Magofna said the projected revenue for the first quarter of fiscal year

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### INSIDE



#### LOCAL

The Northern Marianas College and the Public School System have entered into an agreement.

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#### SUPPLEMENT

Today's *Saipan Tribune* comes with a special Valentine's Day pullout supplement.

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#### LIFE & STYLE

Ariana Grande accuses Grammys producer Ken Ehrlich of lying about not being able to perform.

**PAGE 21**



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# Local

## LibDay Committee kicks off preps

On Wednesday, Feb. 6, the 2019 Liberation Day Planning Committee kicked off its planning and preparation for the annual CNMI Liberation Festivities, with a special commemoration for the 75th anniversary of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian.

The committee held its first meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office. It welcomed back last year's members and welcomed new members to the team. Currently, the team consists of Joe Ayuyu Jr. as chair, Shayne Villanueva as vice chair, Louis Rogers (LDC Non-Profit President), Ryan Camacho (Subcommittee on Finance), Lee Tenorio (Subcommittee on Sponsorships), Parker Yobei and Gordon Marciano (Subcommittee on Program and Entertainment), Maria Valentina Haberman and Joann Aquino (Subcommittee on Concessions, Grounds and Logistics), TBA (Subcommittee on Royal Court), Skep Palacios (Subcommittee on Grand Stand and Hospitality), Kevin Bautista (Subcommittee on Marketing and Public Relations), and Peter Paul Camacho (Governor's Representative).

The major topic of discussion at the first meeting was the theme of this year's celebration. The board voted on "Marianas Strong: 75 Years of Resiliency."

This year's celebration is significant. "As we celebrate our annual Liberation Day festivities, we also commemorate the 75th anniversary of the

phoon. Seventy-five years of resiliency represent our story of struggle, triumph, and love. The struggle to build a brighter future for the next generation, the triumph over the biggest of challenges, and the love we have for our families and friends represent the continuing story of the Marianas.

"This year's theme is a celebration of our story as a community and represents the spirit of *inafa'maolek* and *tipiyeew* that will guide us to the next chapter in the life of these beautiful islands," the statement adds.

Ayuyu said the committee looks forward to working with the Governor's Office, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the business community to make this year's celebration the best one yet.

"We're really excited about this year. We look forward to making this year's liberation festivities a time where we remember our history, commemorate the CNMI's liberation from the camps, honor our veterans and, at the same time, bring a fun-filled day for the community with the parade, great food for our festival grounds, and exciting ways for the community to participate. We just finished our first meeting but there is more exciting information we will share in the coming weeks," Ayuyu said. (PR)

### 75th anniversary of Battles of Saipan and Tinian

Battles of Saipan and Tinian, two pivotal battles that led to the eventual end of World War II," a committee statement over the weekend said. "The Battles of Saipan and Tinian also marked a new chapter for the people who call the Marianas home, as we officially began to foster our relationship with the United States of America."

"For 75 years, the Marianas has remained resilient in the face of great change. From the liberation of Camp Supe, to our fight for self-determination, to the creation of a Commonwealth in political union with the United States, and through some of the worst storms on record, our people overcame the greatest odds in order to build a unique community that is rich in culture and stronger than any ty-

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### BEE WINNER

Lola Guerrero, center, a 5th grade student at Saipan Community School, won the SCS school competition of the National Geographic Bee on Jan. 25, 2019 and a chance at a college scholarship. The school bee, at which students answered questions on geography, was the first round in the 31st annual National Geographic Bee, a geography competition designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



**NEWS BRIEFS****High risk of rip currents until Wednesday**

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, a large trade-wind swell will continue to produce a high risk of rip currents along east facing reefs through the middle of next week. That means a high risk of rip currents on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota through Wednesday night. Along east facing reefs, breaking surf of 7 to 9 feet will maintain a high risk of rip currents through at least Wednesday night.

The public is being advised to avoid venturing near reefs and beaches, especially those facing east. Strong rip currents will be life threatening. If you become caught in a rip current, remain calm, swim parallel to shore, then back toward the beach when possible. heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs. (PR)

**Quake hits Farallon Pajaros**

At 2:24 pm on Feb. 10 2019, a report of a 4.5 magnitude earthquake occurred 162 km west north-west of Farallon de Pajaros, Northern Marianas Islands. Currently, there were no reports of personnel injuries or damages to infrastructure and no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

**Military to conduct trainings**

**ASAN, Guam**—The U.S. Navy will conduct an open-ocean, live-fire gunnery exercise today, Feb. 11, from noon to 11:55pm.

The U.S. Marine Corps and Air Force will conduct

training at Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

■ 11:30am to 9:30pm, Feb. 11

■ 7am to 9:30pm, Feb. 12-14

■ 11:30am to 6:45pm, Feb. 15

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 will conduct training from 6-11:45pm Feb. 12 at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada.

The Air Force will also conduct training from 8am to 8pm on Feb. 13 at Warning Area 12 and Warning Area 517.

The open-ocean exercise will take place within a 10-nautical mile radius of the following coordinates: 13° 26'N/145° 08'E, 13° 42'N/144° 36'E.

It is recommended the public, commercial pilots, fishermen, and marine tour operators stay clear from this area during the date and time indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. F

The public should be advised that routine helicopter training often accompanied with the use of blanks can occur during training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course.

W-12 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-12 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles and laser exercises.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks will be open for public use. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. (PR)

**MARIANAS STRONG**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Docomo Pacific presents the Marianas Young Professionals, or MYPros, with a donation on Feb. 7 to help the islands rebuild and recover from Super Typhoon Yutu. The funds were collected from community members in Guam as part of the "Marianas Strong Wave & Contribution Drive" held late last year. Pictured with the Docomo Pacific team are MYPros co-founder emeritus Nola Hix, third from left, MYPros executive director G Van Gil, fifth from left, and MYPros intern Peyton Gomez. The donation to MYPros is part of Docomo Pacific's total contribution of over \$8-million worth of free services and donations made over the past few months to help families affected by the storm.

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# Subaru recalls 500,000 vehicles

By DENIS FLIERL  
HTTPS://WWW.TORQUENEWS.COM

Subaru is recalling certain 2010-2013 Forester, and 2010-2014 Outback, WRX/STI, Legacy, Tribeca, and 2010-2011 Impreza vehicles. This is part of the massive Takata airbag recall for vehicles worldwide. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says this latest U.S. recall affects close to 500,000 vehicles.

Subaru of America is recalling the above vehicles sold or ever registered, in the states of Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the U.S. Virgin Islands. 43,394 total vehicles are affected.

Subaru is also recalling the same vehicles in the states of Alaska, Colorado, Con-

necticut, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. This recall affects 452,630 vehicles.

## The problem

These Forester, WRX/STI, Outback, Legacy, Tribeca, and Impreza vehicles are equipped with Takata airbag

inflators assembled as part of the passenger frontal airbag modules used as original equipment or replacement equipment. In the event of a crash necessitating the deployment of the passenger frontal airbag, these inflators may explode due to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to absolute humidity and temperature cycling.

An explosion of an inflator within the passenger frontal

airbag module may result in sharp metal fragments striking the front seat passenger, driver or other occupants resulting in serious injury or death.

## What should owners do?

## SAIPAN

From Page 1

are a few isolated areas that are still affected and those are being worked on. But it's very few," said Gilmore Friday.

He said they still encounter a few incidents when some areas lose water, but he said CUC usually responds "very quickly."

Before Super Typhoon Yutu hit Saipan and Tinian last Oct. 24 and 25, CUC was already providing the island 100-percent, 24-hour water supply, he said.

Shortly after Yutu, he said, the water supply dropped because they lost power and relied on generator power.

Gilmore said they gradually went back online and 95 percent of their customers basically got their water supply by Dec. 25 and 26, 2018.

However, the water supply at the time was spotty, he said, because they were having problems with main breaks and other issues.

Last Jan. 13, they became more confident because the water wells were back on island power and not rely-

Subaru has notified owners, and dealers will replace the front passenger air bag inflator, free of charge. The recall began on Jan. 25, 2019. Owners may contact Subaru customer service at 1-844-373-6614. Subaru's number for this recall is TKA-19. Owners can also use the Subaru VIN lookup tool to check all recalls.

ing on the generators of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"Last Jan. 13, we're back to what we declare 24-hour water," he said.

Gilmore also disclosed that their non-revenue water—unaccounted and wasted water—went down from the 73-77 percent in November, to 63 percent now.

Gilmore said they expect to get back to the pre-Yutu level—which was about 50 percent—by "staying consistent and diligently maintaining the assets that we got out there."

Gilmore said they have another project that they are going to start that will help them improve the non-revenue numbers, which would basically involve removing water leaks.

He said that since they are back with 100-percent, 24-hour water supply, they want to be consistent.

Gilmore said they changed the hydraulic system so that they can better supply water.

"We have been monitoring [water] pressures at the various tank areas. And we have been identifying where we have to adjust the systems," he said.

## FOUR

From Page 1

Barcinas and Peter were accompanied by family members, friends, members of their respective committees-to-elect and some party officers during the filing of their candidacies and nominating petitions.

Barcinas landed in seventh place in his re-election bid in the Nov. 13 general election. He was 97 votes behind sixth

placer, Rep. Jose Ilo Itibus (R-Saipan).

He believes that, with the support of the Democratic Party and the people who believe in him, he will be re-elected. "I want to continue serving the people of Precinct 3 and the people of the Commonwealth—Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands—to the best of my ability," Barcinas said.

If he wins, among his priorities is to address issues per-

taining to economic development in the Garapan district.

He said he will focus as well on beautification and enhancement of Garapan and its roads and infrastructure.

Barcinas was affiliated with the Republican Party for 10 years, but he recently switched to the Democratic Party. He worked in the business sector for 27 years.

He and his wife own American Pacific Insurance.

*Saipan Tribune* was still trying to get comments from Pe-

ter as of press time.

With the passing of representative Francisco D. Dela Cruz last Jan. 6, a special election will be held on March 23 to fill the vacant seat.

Dela Cruz landed fifth in the November election.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez, an independent, obtained the highest number of votes.

Aside from Sablan, Fajardo, and Barcinas, the candidates that did not make it were Vicente Camacho, Luis Tilipao, and Stanley Torres.

## REVENUE

From Page 1

2019 was \$27 million. However, CUC's sales, as a result of the typhoon, only earned \$20 million—a shortfall of \$7 million.

Magofna said CUC's expenses also went up as a result of Yutu, particularly personnel

The projected personnel expenses for the first quarter was \$4.8 million, but actual expenses reached \$6.2 million—an increase of \$1.4 million.

Magofna said this is due to overtime and change in pay rates because of the typhoon and restoration efforts.

Typhoon-related labor expenses will be reimbursed by

the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

For operating expenses, CUC only spent \$12.5 million out of the projected \$20.9 million due to Yutu.

"All operations efforts were diverted to restoration," Magofna said.

As CUC moves into the next quarter of fiscal year 2019, Magofna said personnel

expenses will show a decrease because restoration efforts are nearing completion.

However, she said, operating expenses will show a significant increase because invoices are now starting to trickle in.

She said Capital Improvement Projects will resume gradually and expenses will reflect accordingly.

## BROKEN

From Page 1

prehensive immigration reform bill with Republicans and Democrats voting together. That would have gone a long way to fixing immigration.

"The bill gave the people who came here [U.S. mainland] illegally but are now contributing to the economic prosperity of all Americans a way to come out of the shadows, and it provided for substantial improvements in border security—just what President [Donald Trump] says he wants."

Sablan was referring to S. 744 or the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013 that was introduced by Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and co-sponsored by the other seven members of the bipartisan group of U.S. senators dubbed the "Gang of Eight" that wrote and negotiated the bill.

The Senate Judiciary Committee recommended S. 744 to be placed on the calendar.

The Senate passed S. 744 on a 68-32 vote, but it was not considered by the Republican-controlled House and the legislation died in the 113th Congress.

Sablan said he is hoping the 116th Congress, with the Democrats in the majority in the House, could pick up where the "Gang of Eight" left off. "I hope that we can dust off that comprehensive immigration reform bill and breathe new life into it. Because our immigration problems still need fixing, we have a solution, ready-made, that already passed the Senate with Republican and Democratic votes.

"I worked with the 'Gang of Eight' in the Senate who drafted that legislation. I was able to include a section that dealt with groups of people in the Mariana Islands who fell through the cracks when Congress extended U.S. immigration law [Consolidated Natural Resources Act] to my islands in 2008."

## Long-time guest workers

He added that those who were affected by the CNRA did not stay or came to the CNMI ille-

gally. "They were all lawfully present, but their situations were not understood or accounted for when federal law was applied to the [CNMI]. I have wanted to help them since my first days in Congress 10 years ago, and I will not stop working until they are pulled out of the limbo we left them in."

Sablan said the people he wanted to help came to the CNMI even before the Covenant was enacted that put the Commonwealth in political union with the United States. "The Mariana Islands is your only home. You grew up in the islands, went to school, have worked there ever since, raising your own family, always lawfully present."

"Then, three decades later, Congress decides to extend America's immigration borders. Suddenly, you are told you are a foreigner. You need a work visa or humanitarian parole or, otherwise, you will have to leave the only home you have ever known. Imagine. The Senate comprehensive immigration reform bill would have fixed that."

He said that the local govern-

ment then passed a law giving permanent resident status to these long-time guest workers, but they were stripped of their status after Congress extended immigration to the CNMI. Those workers, if they wanted to remain in the CNMI back then, must get a work visa or a humanitarian parole or leave the islands and their families.

"Imagine coming to the [CNMI] as a foreign worker. You have contributed to economic growth and have been a lawfully present for decades. But Congress passes a new law, and suddenly, your status changes. Even if you have a spouse or children who are U.S. citizens, they cannot petition for you because they are too poor or underage," said Sablan.

"Under the Obama administration, at least you were granted humanitarian parole. But the Trump administration wants you gone by June 30 of this year. You must uproot your family, pull your children out of school, or leave them behind as orphans. Imagine. The Senate comprehensive immigration reform bill would have fixed that, too."

Sablan said that the CNMI

is a small community of about 50,000 people, unlike other districts represented by his colleagues in the U.S. House. "When I ask you to imagine the plight of those who were forgotten when Congress extended federal immigration law to the [CNMI], I do not have to imagine who they are. I know them individually. They are my neighbors. Some are my relatives. None are strangers to me."

"They are good people who came in legally and remained lawfully present. But their lives are precarious, and the Trump administration is tightening the noose. We do not have to imagine how to help them. The solution is before us. The Senate-passed comprehensive immigration reform in 2013, a bipartisan vote, a set of policies to fix our broken system and strengthen border security, I dare say, could pass this House today. Let us act."

## Immigration modernization act of 2013

Some key highlights of S. 744, if it became a law, would have given undocumented

immigrants legal status and a path to citizenship and would have added 40,000 border patrol agents. It would have also imposed a points-based immigration system.

A new visa for entrepreneurs and W visa for lower skilled workers were among the new visas that were proposed in S. 744, while also proposing new restrictions under the H1B visa program to prevent abuse and additional visas/green cards for students that have science, technology, engineering, and mathematics degrees from U.S. educational institutions.

S. 744 has also proposed a \$1.5-billion youth jobs program and rescinded the Diversity Visa Lottery. The Congressional Budget Office said the reform bill would have cut the U.S. fiscal deficit by \$197 billion in a 10-year period and another \$700 billion by 2033.

The CBO report also said U.S. wages would have been 0.1 percent lower by 2023 and 0.5 percent higher after 10 years if the bill was passed by the Senate back then. It would have also added \$276 billion in revenues to the Social Security Administration.



# Propst: All workers in CNMI must be protected

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

When he listens to workers' concerns, be they local or foreign hires, House minority leader Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) believes he is doing his job as an elected public servant in making sure all workers in the CNMI are ac-

corded their rights.

The two-term lawmaker from Precinct 1 made the statement after being criticized for hearing the concerns of more than 100 construction workers terminated by Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC following the removal of the Philippines from the H-2B visa program.

"Part of my job as a public servant is listening to the workers, even if they are guest workers. For them to have their fundamental rights and just hear from them. Give them assistance on things that we can provide. These guys don't want to illegally overstay, these are hundreds of them. I met

with hundreds of them and they have their concerns," said Propst.

The workers sought the help of Propst and Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) two weeks ago after IPI allegedly delayed releasing their final paychecks. The workers were also concerned that, with their H-2B visas expir-

ing, they might be branded as overstayers since IPI have not yet arranged their return tickets to the Philippines.

IPI, according to the Office of the Philippine Honorary Consul, had already settled the workers' paychecks and began sending them back home since Saturday. The workers are being sent home in batches with two groups of 40 each having left Saipan on Tuesday and Wednesday via Guam.

The workers, added the Honorary Consul's Office, were even assisted by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection since some of them had a 10-hour layover at the A.B. Won Pat International Airport.

Propst added that he is not against IPI's investment but wants the casino-developer to remain transparent. "Every elected and appointed official, including me, want to see the casino succeed. Because we have become dependent on the revenue that it brings in to the CNMI. But we do also want to ensure that our local and federal laws are being followed."

"We have respect for everyone, and that includes all local and guest workers. I don't think that is too much to ask. We also ask for transparency and accountability, things that we expect from not just IPI but every large company and even small businesses here."

He said his office is always open to any IPI official so they could discuss and find solutions on issues concerning the casino. "I'm con-

cerned because we often say that elected or appointed officials should not say anything because we don't want to create bad publicity. But, even if I don't say the word, we have the media who reports these things. And if it is going to create public pressure to do something about it, then so be it."

"But that's part of the reason that I was elected. My door is always open to meet with any IPI representative, I do want to see the casino succeed. I will continue to do my best to work with you and if there are concerns or things that you want to discuss, my office is always open. We want to see that building done."

Propst added that the community is also concerned about the multimillion-dollar project. "We've seen it given extension after extension for whatever excuses. We are definitely concerned about it because a lot of people thinks that the new extensions would be enough to finish it. We are not trying to stir the pot. We would rather want to have that casino-hotel built. If that is not finished, how does that look in our biggest tourist area?"

"I am committed to working with everyone, but...we've seen protests after protests after protests; we can't deny that. Whether I posted it on social media, still the [local] media will cover it. I have an obligation to the people that I represent: to make sure that laws are being followed and that workers are getting paid whether they are local or guests."

## Study: Over 90 pct. of fresh graduates enter developmental math at college



Education Commissioner Glenn Muña and Northern Marianas College interim president Frankie Eliptico sign a memorandum of understanding to provide transitional math courses to high school students in preparation for college.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College and the Public School System have entered into an agreement for a specialized math course for high school students entering NMC, after a Hawaii-based research firm noted that more than 90 percent of local high school graduates are entered into developmental math courses once they go into NMC.

A study published by Regional Educational Laboratory Program Pacific, a Honolulu-based education research firm, noted 92 percent of PSS graduates are placed in developmental math courses upon enrolling at NMC.

To help remedy the situation, both PSS and NMC agreed to support both the co-design and implementation of a high school math transition course to increase the number of high school graduates who start with college-level math courses at NMC.

According to a memorandum of understanding signed between NMC and PSS last Jan. 25, 92 percent of PSS high school juniors who took the NMC math placement test in spring 2018 only qualified for developmental math courses. That means their math skills are not college-ready and they will need to undergo math tutorials from basic arithmetic, to pre-algebra, elementary

algebra, and then intermediate algebra.

In an April 2017 study titled, "Comparing enrollment, characteristics, and academic outcomes of students in developmental courses and those in credit-bearing courses at Northern Marianas College," REL Pacific noted that students who started in credit-bearing math courses at NMC are much more likely to graduate with a college degree.

"There are a number of cooperative activities that both NMC and PSS have engaged in since coming together five years ago to prepare high school graduates for successful transitions to college," said

Leo Pangelinan of REL Pacific. Pangelinan was a former dean at NMC and reportedly does contracted work with REL Pacific.

When asked for comments about the new accord between PSS and NMC, Pangelinan said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*: "This new project is a major step forward for the CNMI and should result in higher numbers of high school graduates starting in college-level math."

"Over time, this course should contribute to reducing the time and money it takes to earn a college degree," he added.

REL Pacific is a major partner of the CNMI to "better

align the K-12 system with college and the workforce."

According to Pangelinan, the math transition course would be piloted in at least one PSS school in the fall 2019 semester.

"The aim during academic year 2020-2021 is for 120 PSS students to successfully complete the transition course and are assured entry into NMC's [college-level math course]," he noted.

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# Torres looks forward to organized Cannabis Commission

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is looking to have the CNMI Cannabis Commission orga-

nized so they could already formulate and implement the rules that would regulate an

upcoming cannabis industry in the Commonwealth.

Public Law 20-66 legalized the medical and recreational use of marijuana in the CNMI.

The appointments of the members of the commission—Nadine Deleon Guerrero and Matt Deleon Guerrero (Saipan), Valentino Taisacan Jr. (Northern Islands), Lawrence Duponcheel (Tinian), and Thomas Songsong (Rota)—have already been confirmed by each of their legislative delegations in the 20th Legislature.

The commission, however, is not official yet; the commissioners have yet to be sworn in. They are also waiting for the companion bill, which would address the line-items

that Torres vetoed when he signed P.L. 20-66 into law.

A companion bill House Bill 20-196, introduced by former representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, did not make it through the previous legislature, having been introduced just as both the House and Senate were having their closing sessions a few days before the inauguration of the new legislature.

Torres is optimistic that the companion bill will have better success this year as he plans to meet with the five-member commission, along with members of the Legislature headed by House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao (R-Saipan) and Senate President Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota).

“I plan to give them [commission] the appropriate funding that they need to formulate as a commission. And they get 180 days after that to promulgate the rules and regulations so we can start implementing the law,” said Torres.

“We want them [commission] to do it right. It is time-sensitive, but we don’t want to force them either to make a regulation that is not sound for the CNMI,” Torres added.

P.L. 20-66 states after the bill is signed, the governor and the mayors of the three other municipalities have 30 days to appoint the members of the commission. The appointees will then have 60 days to get confirmation from their respective delegations.

The commission, within 180 days of their organizational meeting, must then prescribe forms and adopt rules for the program that have six types of regulated marijuana businesses: producers, testing facilities, processors, retailers, wholesalers, and lounges.

The commission will then begin accepting applications once all licensing regulations have been adopted and they are not allowed to delay the processing, approval, or rejection of these applications.

## PTSA meeting for Kagman schools

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman cluster of schools will be having a Parents Teachers Students Association meeting on Tuesday,

Feb. 12, 2019, at 5:30pm in the Kagman High School cafeteria. Call the schools at 237-3921, 664-4100, or 664-3911 if you have any questions or concerns. (PR)



### GUAM-BOUND

Mount Carmel School music teacher Julian Greening, upper right, leads the school band during a recent performance. The band is gearing up to compete, for the first time ever, in the Tumon Bay Music Festival in Guam.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP19-CHCC/DPHS-007**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 13, 2019 TIME: 09:00AM**

**“SCREENING, BRIEF INTERVENTION, REFERRAL TO TREATMENT (SBIRT) IMPLEMENTATION**  
**DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION”**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO**  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP19-CHCC/H.O.M.E. VISITING-009**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 25, 2019 • TIME: 09:00AM**

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT**  
**H.O.M.E VISITING**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO**  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**CUC-RFP-19-008**

**SUPPLY OF FUEL FOR LIGHT VEHICLES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT**

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the supply of fuel for light vehicles and heavy equipment for CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

**One (1) original and four (4) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk or USB Drive in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-19-008 -Supply of Fuel for Light Vehicles and Heavy Equipment” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **March 4, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor’s Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 15, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to John Mafnas, CUC Contract Specialist via email address [john.mafnas@cucgov.org](mailto:john.mafnas@cucgov.org) and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Technician, Senior via email address [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAN**  
Purchasing Administrator

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**CUC-IFB-19-012**

**ISLAND WIDE WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.*

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of installing new service saddles, corporation stops, PVC service lines from the CUC water main to the meter, replacing defective water meters, installing new service laterals and new water meters, properly sizing existing service lines, installing a water meter on existing CUC service lines without a meter, relocating existing CUC water meters from private property to public easement, reconfiguring the orientation of water meters to easily identify customers, removing existing manifold systems, and as required, installing new service lines from the meter to the house plumbing. It may also be required to connect existing service lines to a new meter and/or house piping.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **February 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 21, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC’s Purchasing Administrator, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email [nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org](mailto:nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org) and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email [christie.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:christie.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAN**  
Procurement Administrator



# APPLY NOW!

## PACIFIC CENTURY FELLOWS PROGRAM *Marianas Chapter*

The Pacific Century Fellows Marianas Chapter is a non-profit, leadership development program that runs for nine months uniting emerging leaders from diverse professions and background in an attempt to address problems and concerns facing the Northern Mariana Islands through innovative solutions.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be between the ages of 25-45
- Must reside in the CNMI for at least 1 year
- Submit completed application
- Provide two (2) letters of recommendation
- Must attend opening weekend retreat
- Must meet minimum attendance requirement

*"Fellows will be in an environment that will foster open mindness, creativity, and constructive problem solving. Fellows will be better able to lead, not only in their respective industries, but in the communities they serve and the islands in which they live."*

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- **February 1-March 1, 2019:** Application Period
- **March 9, 2019:** Selection Saturday (Mandatory)
- **March 16-17, 2019:** Opening Weekend Retreat (Mandatory)

For more information or to download an application, visit us at **[www.pcf-marianas.com](http://www.pcf-marianas.com)** or contact Ms. Mel Naputi at (670) 235-0560 ext. 118.





# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## What a border security deal should include—and exclude—to avoid another shutdown

**C**an we all agree on this? The ridiculous and futile 35-day partial shutdown of the federal government that ended Jan. 25 does not deserve a sequel when the funding deal reached that day runs out Feb. 15.

Most members of Congress—Republicans as well as Democrats—seem to grasp this. There were several reports Thursday that lawmakers were close to a compromise on a measure that would provide some funding to improve border security, though not the full \$5.7 billion for 230 miles of new walls that President Donald Trump has sought. Senate Appropriations Chair Richard Shelby, R-Alabama, told Politico that Trump wanted negotiators to “wrap it up” and to “get a legislative solution.”

Of course, it's possible a president as mercurial as Trump may ultimately not sign what Congress sends him. It's also possible that the Democratic lawmakers who seem increasingly opposed to basic immigration enforcement may oppose any deal that builds off the premise that the border needs defending. But it's time for a compromise that treats border security as essential—yet also seeks to improve an immigration system that seems close to broken.

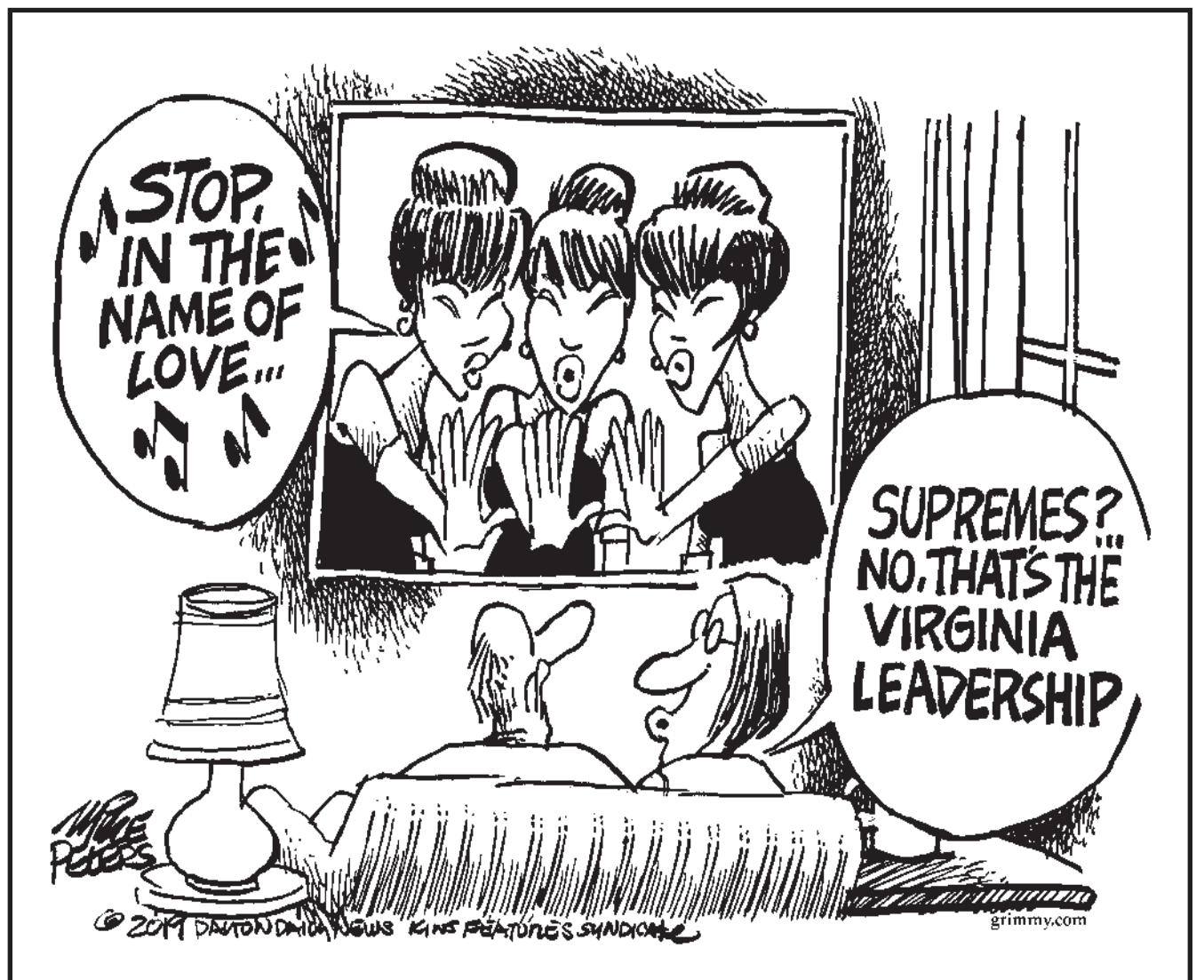
For starters, the deal shouldn't accept the president's preposterous premise that America is in the middle of a national emergency because of criminal elements freely entering the country. Unauthorized immigrant apprehensions are down; agents per apprehension are up; most of the crossing of people and drugs happens at ports of entry; and authorized and unauthorized immigrants are both less likely to commit crime than native-born Americans.

The deal should acknowledge the difficult jobs of immigration and Border Patrol agents, and address their staffing woes. It should provide more funding for technology and barriers to boost border security—but also significantly increase the ranks of immigration court judges to relieve a backlog of more than 800,000 cases of asylum seekers, migrants arrested for being in the United States without authorization and individuals who overstayed their visas.

This is a reasonable compromise that nearly all modern presidents—except for maybe the current one—would likely accept. But to his credit, Trump made one very reasonable observation about immigration this week. His unscripted comment in his State of the Union address that America could use legal immigration “in the largest numbers ever” reflected a recognition that such immigration has historically strengthened the nation and its economy. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's enthusiastic reaction to the remark reflected the difficulty that many entire industries are having in filling jobs.

So perhaps something constructive will come out of Washington's ugly squabbles. Or perhaps Trump will disavow his own remarks, as he has done repeatedly. Americans desperate for a focused, coherent federal government should hope it's the former.

(c)2019 The San Diego Union-Tribune



## All Americans deserve to retire

By KATHLEEN KENNEDY TOWNSEND and RANDI WEINGARTEN  
THE BALTIMORE SUN

**T**he recent shutdown of the federal government showed how fragile the savings rate is in America. Stories of furloughed workers pawning their wedding rings, staying home from work because they couldn't afford child care and going to payday lenders are a devastating indictment of the vulnerable situation many Americans, even those with a steady paycheck, find themselves in.

Half of Americans don't have anything saved. We want to change that. Our mission to ensure that all Americans can retire and live out their lives without fear of destitution has been embraced in many surprising ways. In this time of stark divisions, more than three-quarters of both Republicans and Democrats support the concept of a guaranteed retirement account (GRA)—an account into which employers and employees make modest, regular deposits that grow into a reliable nest egg.

Indeed, according to Gallup, retirement has been the No. 1 issue on Americans' minds since 2000—a greater concern than economic insecurity or even health care. In fact, one survey found that 80 percent of Americans fear retirement more than they fear death itself.

The strongest support for GRAs comes from young people. The retirement system that was built for the 20th century is not working for them. Many are mired in student debt or work in the gig economy. Their grandparents who had pensions could retire, but their parents can't afford to, and young people worry that will be their fate, too.

Some people argue that education is the key to retirement security—that if Americans only knew more about saving for retirement, they would build adequate nest eggs. Of course, Americans should know not to overspend and should understand credit card debt, car payments and mortgages. But it's unrealistic to expect most people to know how to allocate equities, diversify holdings and assess economic conditions. And our members who have pensions generally have been satisfied to have professional trustees and advisers do that work for them.

The fact is that small and midsize businesses and their employees need help. The vast majority don't provide retirement vehicles because they are expensive, confusing and include fiduciary liability. Unlike those who work for the government or large employers, these employees don't have the option to have a retirement plan at work.

GRAs provide a simple solution: The money in the accounts belongs to the employee—neither the employer nor the government can take it, and it cannot be shared with other workers. Workers who already have a pension plan keep it. GRAs are portable from job to job. The accounts would be invested by private, professional money managers. Workers decide when to retire and convert their savings into a guaranteed monthly payment for the rest of their lives, based on the size of their account at the time of retirement. Upon death, the account will be transferred to a beneficiary of the worker's choosing.

Too good to be true? Not at all. Elements of this plan have been tested in a variety of countries, including Australia.

One example of simple and easy retirement savings similar to GRAs is in Oregon, which encouraged businesses that did not offer a retirement plan to offer an opt-out savings option to all employees. So far, more than two-thirds of employees have opted in. They were not “more educated,” they just had an easier way to save. And studies show that many of those who did not opt in already had a retirement plan.

New York City is another example: Mayor Bill de Blasio plans to create a city-managed retirement fund for workers who lack access to employer-sponsored plans.

These plans are especially important for women and people of color. The persistent racial wealth gap during African-Americans' and Latinos' working years follows them into their retirements. An Urban Institute report found that, in 2013, the average white family had more than \$130,000 in liquid retirement savings, compared with \$19,000 for the average African-American family and \$12,000 for the average Hispanic family. Women are much more likely than men to face poverty in retirement—they generally live longer, have lower earnings and are more likely to outlive sources of retirement income. We must expand and strengthen Social Security, coupled with guaranteed retirement accounts, which can help break this cycle of economic struggle by ensuring that all Americans have the ability to save for retirement in a simple, cost-effective way.

Ensuring every American's final years are secure is a moral—and attainable—imperative.

*Kathleen Kennedy Townsend is director of retirement security at EPI, serves on the board of Maryland Saves and was Maryland's first woman lieutenant governor. Randi Weingarten is the president of the American Federation of Teachers. They can be reached at aftpress@aft.org.*



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## *The National Enquirer* is after Jeff Bezos for sullyng its reputation. Seriously?

**T**he Bezos-Pecker story that won the Internet Thursday raised a number of, umm, titillating questions to ponder.

How did the *National Enquirer* get copies of the very private texts that Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos exchanged with his mistress? What, if any, connection is there between the *Enquirer* and Saudi Arabia's royal family? Was *Enquirer* honcho David Pecker trying to humiliate Bezos as a favor to Pecker's pal in the White House, President Donald Trump, who is warring with the Bezos-owned Washington Post? (It's a war with new skirmishes daily.) And why on earth did top *Enquirer* officials—including its deputy general counsel, for heaven's sake—put in writing what appears to be a textbook example of an extortionate demand?

Here's hoping that Bezos will spend some of his massive but soon-to-be-diminished wealth on a lawsuit that will make public the answers to these inquiries. For now, all we have is speculation. Some of it is interesting and meaningful to the average American—I'd point to ruminations like this on how your texts can migrate from your phone to other devices automatically, making them far less private than you think:

Interestingly, a lawyer for the *Enquire's* parent company, American Media Inc., said in an email to Bezos' team that "it undertook no electronic eavesdropping in connection with its reporting and has no knowledge of such conduct." Of course, that

doesn't rule out the possibility that the *Enquirer* got the texts and photos from a third party who kept mum about their provenance.

But here's the question that's sticking in my mind: Why was the *Enquirer* so determined to get Bezos and his investigator, Gavin de Becker, to walk back some pretty run-of-the-mill criticism of the *Enquirer*? Here's a central demand that American Media lawyer Jon Fine sent in an email to De Becker's attorney, per Bezos' blog post:

"A public, mutually-agreed upon acknowledgment from the Bezos Parties, released through a mutually-agreeable news outlet, affirming that they have no knowledge or basis for suggesting that AM's coverage was politically motivated or influenced by political forces, and an agreement that they will cease referring to such a possibility."

This is what the *Enquirer* was threatening Bezos over? Really?

A supermarket tabloid whose stock in trade is trashy celebrity gossip and conspiracy theories, the *National Enquirer* can hardly worry about its reputation being sullied by accusations that it doesn't practice even-handed journalism. Beyond that, it has already admitted to engaging in "catch and kill"—that is, buying the exclusive rights to a scandalous expose, then not publishing it—to stop a former *Playboy* model from talking about her alleged affair with Trump before the 2016 election.

So, what could Bezos or De Becker possibly say about the *Enquirer* that would lower its reputation further? And they may

**By JON HEALEY**

Los Angeles Times



not have been the only one threatened on this point—journalist Ronan Farrow tweeted Thursday that he and one other, unnamed journalists "fielded similar 'stop digging or we'll ruin you' blackmail efforts" from American Media as they were reporting on its relationship with Trump.

Fine, the American Media lawyer, accused members of the Bezos team of making "defamatory statements" about the company by speculating that it had political motives for covering Bezos' affair. But according to the Second Restatement of Torts (a common law reference manual), "a communication is defamatory if it tends so to harm the reputation of another as to lower him in the estimation of the community or to deter third persons from associating or dealing with him."

Again, American Media admitted that political motivations influence its work, so how could its reputation be affected here?

## Love never arrives too late

**O**n the front of the first Valentine's Day card I ever received was the following: "Before I met you, Valentine, I didn't know what love was." On the inside of the card: "Now it's too late."

I didn't realize at the time that the smart-alecky tone embodied by that initial billet-doux would, for the next five decades of my life, shape and reflect my understanding of romance and love.

I talk for a living, but it's still hard to talk about love, especially when it's officially mandated by the calendar. (Men, of course, think Valentine's Day is a woman-dated occasion.) It's hard to talk about love because most of the time, we have no idea what we're talking about. We mutter; we fumble; we blush; we purchase plush toys. None of it makes sense.

And I say this as a woman who loves her spouse and is loved by her spouse. We've been married to each other for 28 years. We are still figuring out what love means and are still having fun gathering information on the topic.

For Michael, love means shoveling the walk, dealing with the taxes and taking the garbage to the dump. It means being happy to see me when I come back from having given a talk on the other side of the country, even if he has to wait at the airport because the plane is late, which it inevitably is. It means dedicating

his book to me. It means making me laugh. Love means not giving me a cookbook as a gift, which he did on our first Valentine's Day together and never, ever did again.

For me, love means keeping the cats fed, their boxes clean and their fur shiny so that when they sit on his lap in the evening—preferring him to me as they do—they are ideal creatures. It means not being bitter that, even though I do all that work, the cats prefer him to me. It means learning how to identify makes and models of cars, both foreign and domestic, going back to 1957, when Michael had a Chevy of which he still dreams. It means keeping tabs on all birthdays, buying gifts for all occasions and preparing for all holidays, including reminding him that since Feb. 14 is on the horizon, he should be driving off to a card store.

One of our ways of saying "I love you" is to say "Be careful driving." I'm not kidding. "Careful driving" is the intimate phrase we whisper in each other's ears before going to sleep. It has nothing to do with that Chevy, either. We also say "I love you," because they're important words, even if we're still figuring out the meaning.

So what is it? It's an unbuttoning of the self. Not an unbuttoning of the clothing covering your sexy self, but the reassurance that, without any camouflage, cover-ups or compromise, you're

**By GINA BARRECA**

The Hartford Courant

*Gina Barreca is a board of trustees distinguished professor of English literature at the University of Connecticut and the author of 10 books. She can be reached at [www.ginabarreca.com](http://www.ginabarreca.com).*



safe. You're in the presence of another person who would rather be with you than with anyone else.

Love is a gift, and as such, it can't be earned. One of the most puzzling aspects of love is its lack of justice. It's unfair. Love can elude people who seem to deserve it while it's heaped on those who appear to ignore it, run from it, or slough it off as too restrictive.

Love is inconvenient. Love is untidy. Love is relentless, ruthless and rapacious. Done well, it's hilarious, playful and redemptive.

And unlike what that original Valentine's Day card announced, I have learned that love, whenever it arrives, is never too late.

## The Valentine's Day dilemma

**E**very year, millions of couples wrestle with Cupid over the best way to show their true feelings about Valentine's Day and the person they love. Some think that it should be a national holiday, and others think it should be ignored or at least altered for those who are not in relationships. Millions all over the country now celebrate it as "Quirky Alone Day," and this alternative is only gaining in popularity.

That being said, for millions of people in loving relationships, celebrating Valentine's Day is a must. And for many people, that means doing it in a major way. But can all these expectations rob the holiday of joy? It's no fun when you feel like you have to do something the way your partner wants it or risk triggering a tantrum. For this holiday to bring joy, taking any action has to come from the heart, whether it be writing a card, offering breakfast in bed or flowers, going out for dinner, or buying an expensive gift.

Some couples can't afford the up-priced menus and flowers (roses are at least triple the usual rate), and others just don't like the idea of being told when to be romantic. Most people aren't light switches and can't be turned on by a holiday that has gotten greater scrutiny over the past decade or so. And these couples are recreating Valentine's Day.

My almost-a-daughter and her husband are of that mind. They

don't go out on Valentine's Day and don't buy flowers or cards, although they might make some for each other with the kids and do a little celebration just for themselves. For this family, doing-up Cupid's cotillion just seems like a waste of money. So they will save their money for their regular date night and have a little extra cash to enjoy it with.

They are being practical while still allowing the spirit of the day to flow through their lives, rather than take it over. There are many levels to celebrating any holiday, and how you do it is totally up to you. That's right, you can make up your own holiday and plan it any way you want.

There are millions of traditionalists out there who enjoy and want to celebrate the day of love in any and every way they can. If it's something you enjoy (and can afford), then the sky's the limit. And if you don't have a lot to spend right now, you don't have to stop celebrating, but you can get creative and be mindful about what you're spending.

For us, the day will begin as it always does—I will bring her tea in bed. I got a card at Trader Joe's and a little gift, and we will go out to dinner, but at a place that doesn't have a prefix menu and where they know our names. We will have a glass of champagne, and I will invite her to order whatever she wants. And that

**By BARTON GOLDSMITH**

Tribune News Service

*Dr. Barton Goldsmith, a psychotherapist in Westlake Village, Calif., is the author of The Happy Couple: How to Make Happiness a Habit One Little Loving Thing at a Time. Follow his daily insights on Twitter at @BartonGoldsmith, or email him at [Barton@barton-goldsmith.com](mailto:Barton@barton-goldsmith.com).*








will be our perfect Valentine's evening out.

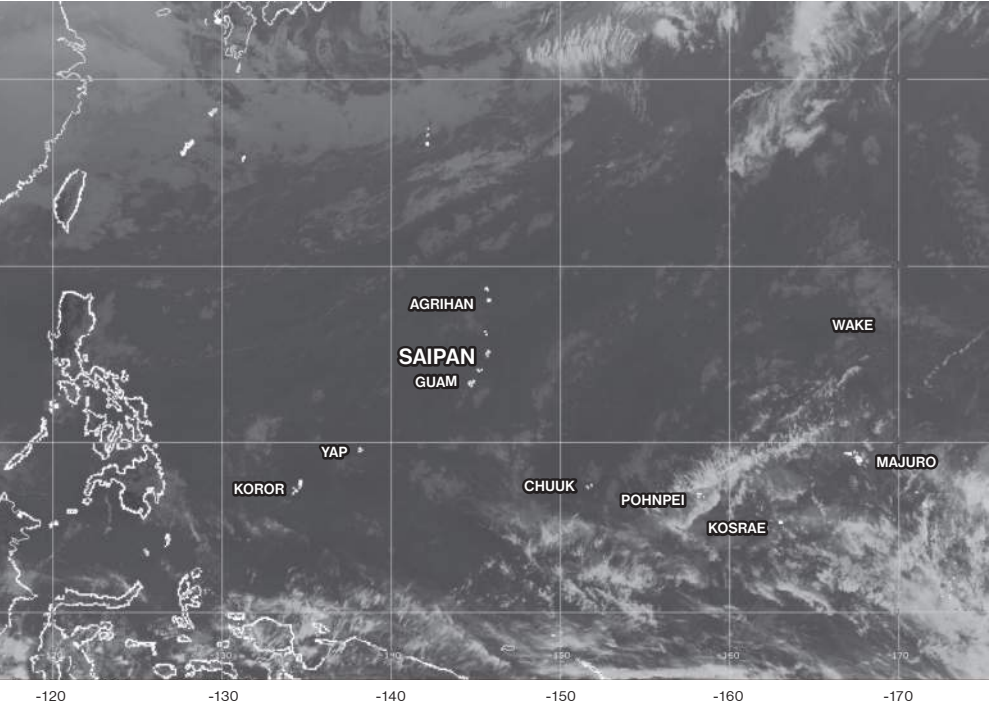
Acknowledging Valentine's Day in some way, shape, or form is important to many of us. If you're in a relationship, I strongly urge you to talk about what works for you and your partner. Come up with compromises and alternatives that fit your lifestyle. I actually think that doing it your own way is the most romantic way of celebrating your love.

Combining a conversation with your celebration will only make you closer and help you manage any expectations and avoid hurting feelings. It can be a fun day—enjoy!



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
									
Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. Breezy during the daylight hours.		Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. Breezy during the daylight hours.	
86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 6:25 AM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.  
Partly cloudy skies, isolated light showers, and moderate to fresh trade winds are present across the Marianas. Seas at the buoys are near 7 feet. The Saturday evening sounding showed very dry conditions with only 0.83 inches of precipitable water and a strong temperature inversion confining moisture to within 3000 feet of the surface.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Windy	83° / 75°			
Palau	Showers	83° / 76°			
Yap	Showers	84° / 78°			
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 80°			
Pohnpei	Showers	85° / 79°			
Kosrae	Showers	85° / 79°			
Majuro	Showers	85° / 80°			

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	79° / 66°			
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	34° / 19°			
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	73° / 66°			
Honolulu	Showers	78° / 66°			
London	Mostly Sunny	46° / 34°			
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	60° / 45°			
Manila	Sunny	88° / 73°			
Melbourne	Rain	73° / 52°			
Miami	Mostly Sunny	79° / 71°			
New York	Cloudy	40° / 31°			
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	48° / 36°			
Paris	Partly Cloudy	45° / 34°			
Busan	Sunny	50° / 37°			
Rome	Partly Cloudy	55° / 39°			
Salem	Showers	69° / 60°			
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	50° / 44°			
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	43° / 25°			
Tokyo	Mixed	46° / 34°			
Washington, DC	Showers	40° / 33°			



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:26 AM	LOW TIDE		0.51
11:47 AM	HIGH TIDE		1.83
6:34 PM	LOW TIDE		0.58
-	-		-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:43 AM	6:19 PM
Tuesday	6:43 AM	6:19 PM
Wednesday	6:42 AM	6:19 PM
Thursday	6:42 AM	6:20 PM
Friday	6:41 AM	6:20 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:44 AM	11:23 PM	-
Tuesday	11:25 AM	-	-
Wednesday	-	12:14 AM	12:08 PM
Thursday	-	1:09 AM	12:56 PM
Friday	-	2:06 AM	1:49 PM

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 21, 2019											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily			UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily		
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4			UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	Daily			7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		
						7C3452	10:05pm	2:00am+1	1		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1			7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily		
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
						OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily								
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)						HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN					
JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1			JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4		
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4			JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:30am	7:55am	2, 6			3U8645	7:55pm	2:40am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
UA117/183	9:15am	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA182/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM		
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM		
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR			UA192/174	10:30pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR		
UA105/183	4:45pm	9:40pm	2 via GUM			UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA105/183	4:45pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM								
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7		
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7			UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7		
UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM			UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6		
						UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4 via GUM		
UA105/159	4:45pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM			UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
SAIPAN TO ROTA						1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily		
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily			1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily		
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily			1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily		
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily			1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily		
ROTA TO SAIPAN						1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily		
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily			1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily		
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily			1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily		
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily			1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily		
ROTA TO GUAM						TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily			2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily		
GUAM TO ROTA						2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily		
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily			2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily		
SAIPAN TO TINIAN						2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily		
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily			2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily		
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily		
						2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily		
						2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily		
						2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily		
						2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily		



# Today, Tomorrow, and Always

Dear Mommy Pangga,

I love you and thank you as my Friend, Partner, Wife and as a Mommy of our kids. Happy Valentines Day & Advance Happy Mother's day too!

To Slicks aka Maverick! Thanks for always being the annoying person you always are, even if you irritate the life in me. You will always be my go to, my lover, and my everything. :) Always remember you're kind, sorta, basically pretty much always on my mind. Happy Vday, love you!

Honey, It is hard to come up with fancy love quote, it is not our style. Our kind of love is plain and simple, but true and strong! I love you labidabi Perlie, since 2005!  
From Ian Ramos

Cookie, I must have done something right to deserve a loving husband and an awesome dad to our son. Thank you for always being like the sunrise at my lowest. I value how your strengths complemented my weaknesses. I am forever grateful for your love. Happy Valentines Day!  
Love, Smurfy

Marie,  
To the most determined, strongest, loving, kind hearted person I know...  
Thank you for being the rock of our family.  
You are my drive, I love you!

Always,  
Russ

To my wife M.C.B  
I never dreamed I could find a wife like you. You have been my defender, my protector, my comforter, and friend. I promise to love you freely and unconditionally to the very end no matter what.  
Love, Daddy FB

Dear Franco,  
Thank you for loving me unconditionally. You'll always be MY BOO. I love you more, no matter what!

I love you  
Pangga Mike!  
N

To honeybunchsweetie,  
Loving you has been by far amazing. There is never a day that my mind does not think of you. Thank you for sticking by my side through our ups and downs, I appreciate you. I promise I'll always love you unconditionally. I love you, always.

- Happy Valentine's Day  
Bebe <3

To my yeobo Frank,  
I love you most. Thank you for being an amazing husband & dad-to-be. Happy Valentine's!  
-SunJin

To my lovely coco puff,

Happy love day! I just wanted to remind you that you are loved, wanted and appreciated. Thank you for being such an amazing person without even trying. You're such a phenomenal and magnificent creature. You're worthwhile! I love you so much.

Love, your love <3

Happy Valentines Daddy!  
We love you forever and ever. Thank you for everything you've done to us.  
1 Corinthians 16:14  
Love, Angelica, Avery & Grey

Happy Valentine's Day Hekido!  
Love you always.  
From your Valentine  
Daydra.

To my Love,  
You never fail to make my heart smile <3 everyday is a new adventure with you. I wish you all the best this new year and I would be the happiest to be by your side through it all. I love you for all that you are, all that you've been and all you're yet to be. Happy Valentine's Day my handsome MWUAH!  
-Jaime Bocago

To my love "Big Bear"  
Happiest Valentine's to you!  
You are my sun, my moon and all my stars! Love you to the moon and beyond.  
~ Arisa

Hanky,  
I am so grateful to have you in my life. I am lucky to have you as a husband because you are kind, funny, compassionate, and loving. You are my gaming partner, my workout buddy, my companion, my best friend and my love. I love you so much.  
<3 Twinkle

To Nanay Amparo,  
There is no blessing quite so dear... as a Mom like you to love year after year.  
Happy Valentine's Nay!  
Obet

Joey,  
We may be apart but true love is never inseparable that makes distance so little.  
Happy Valentines Day Mahal!  
Rose

Happy Valentine's Day B. Thank you for being the reason I look forward to everyday. Thank you for being such a loving, caring, and responsible husband and father to our daughter. You are my best friend, my loyal companion and I am so happy and thankful to our dear Lord for giving you to us. The best part of Valentine's Day is the opportunity to express all the love that I have for you and looking forward to growing old with you. Have a great day, B. Love..lnah

To Babs,  
It was love at first sight type of thing, which I knew was real and nothing can be compared to what we had. It's always been a roller coaster but it's a type of roller coaster I never wanted to end. You deserve more than what the world or the universe can offer, my darling. I'll always be at the field where the ocean and the skies meet and the planes passes by. One day ill be better. Endlessly always.

Eujin Byen  
You are truly wonderful person and you make me so happy! Thank you for deeming me worthy of being in your life.  
Happy Valentine's Day!  
From: E

To my husband Mark and children,

God has blessed me with so much love, happiness and joy with the presence of each of you in my life and heart. You are so very special to me and I am forever thankful. I cherish each and every day that we have together. I LOVE YOU! #Toveslove

Love Always,  
Your Queen

Shoutout to Mico Usi  
After 10 years and 3 kids, we're still here, together facing many storms and sunshines. On this Hearts Day 2019, let me shout out to everyone that I LOVE YOU. Looking forward to more years of LOVE and JOY with you and our family.  
Happy Valentine's Day Bbyko!!!

Peter,  
Happy 2nd Anniversary to my better-in-every-way-half. Thank you for everything that you do for us. Having you by my side makes me the happiest. I love you!

Tinapay ng Yung Buhay, Ken

Love is capable of filling your life with joy that were thought to be unimaginable. You showed me the meaning of love not with words but with your actions & caring heart. I appreciate you so much that I will spend my lifetime taking care of you with love & passion. You are that once in a lifetime blessing that is bestowed upon me. I will love you every second, minute, & hour of every day. My love for you will never change. You mean the world to me. Happy Valentine's Day! I will love you forever & always.

Love, June Alipio

To: Andrian M. Happy Valentines daddy Oni. Thanks for loving me and baby Elise. Can't wait to start this new journey with you. We love you so much!

Mommy,  
I've fallen in love many times... always with you.  
Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife, Jenny! I love you and I always will...  
Daddy (Jojo Valencia)

Mike,  
Happy Valentine's Love, Thank you for the understanding and being strong throughout all the problems that comes our way. I love you so much.  
Mayann

Davy Joshua,

Thank you for all the wonderful memories, the constant support, and a love that will never end.

I love you.  
Happy Valentine's Day.

Xoxo, your girl

## #Lovenotes





Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood Restaurant of Aqua Resort Club in San Roque will offer a combination of romantic ambience, great food, wine, and live piano music on Valentine's Day.

BEA CABRERA



Whisk your loved one to a romantic getaway on Valentine's Day at Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood Restaurant of Aqua Resort Club in San Roque.

BEA CABRERA

## A romantic getaway at Aqua Resort Club

By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Giving your loved-one the best this Valentine's Day is always a good idea and **Aqua Resort Club** would like to be your partner in making this special occasion happen. "Say it with Dinner" at Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood is one way of showing your special someone that care about them.

That has not been lost to loyal customers of Aqua Resort Club. Over the years, they turn to the resort-hotel for their romantic getaway every Valentine's Day.

"People see ARC as their 'private paradise' and this year is no different," said ARC marketing & public relations manager Victoria Sorrell.

This Valentine's Day, Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood will be featuring a delicious, palate-pleasing seven-course menu that will be prepared by executive chef Daryl Babauta, live piano music, and fresh roses for all the ladies.

"[As] what our Food & Beverage manager Neil Metran said, our Valentine's Day promo is the most anticipated day of the year for Kevin's," she added.

Sorrell said that guests can expect a delicious menu featuring the incorporation of local produce and high quality im-

Our Valentine's Day promo is the most anticipated day of the year for Kevin's.

ports as well as excellent service and a beautifully romantic atmosphere.

Aqua Resort Club's Kevin's The Prime Rib and Seafood Restaurant was created in 2017 with the intention of having a romantic dinner place on Saipan.

According to Sorrell, Kevin's The Prime Rib and Seafood Restaurant was a concept of ARC general manager Kevin Tsurui. "Mr. Tsurui wanted a restaurant that has a theme of romance. He wanted to create the most romantic restaurant on Saipan, featuring uniquely delicious cuisines in an intimate setting and perfect for 'popping the question,'" she said.

"We invite everyone to come and celebrate Valentine's Day with us. Please also look forward to ARC's exciting promotions that are coming up that includes the celebration of Hinamatsuri or Japanese Girl's Day on March 3 and our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this summer," she added.

"Say It With Dinner" at Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood is this Thursday, Feb. 14. For reservations and more information, call (670) 322-1234 or go to their website [www.aquaresortsaipan.com](http://www.aquaresortsaipan.com).



**SAY IT WITH DINNER**  
*Thursday, February 14, 2019*

*This Valentine's Day,*

Wine & Dine that special someone with an especially romantic night at Kevin's—The Prime Rib & Seafood, featuring a delicious set menu & Live Pianist set in an intimate, candlelit dream-like atmosphere.

**KEVIN'S**  
The Prime Rib & Seafood

Limited Seating. Reservations Recommended.  
For Reservations & More Information, Please Call us at +1 (670) 322-1234  
[www.aquaresortsaipan.com](http://www.aquaresortsaipan.com)



# Ron and Moon Smith's *dance of love*

By **BEA CABRERA**  
beacabrera@saipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-two years ago, Moon Smith, who was just looking forward to some peace and quiet in her room, succumbed to a friend's request to go to a dance class at the library annex to shake the blues away.

Also responding to a friend's invitation, Ron Smith was headed to the same dance class and was looking forward to a casual and fun afternoon.

At the library, and unexpectedly paired with each other, that first dance led to the start of a lifelong journey of listening to each other's music and dancing to the same tune.

"When the teacher said that I have to dance with Ron, I asked why? He was a stranger and doesn't wear slippers!" Moon laughed. "But I did it anyway because it was required. ...I did not get his name and whenever I see him [after], I would just simply shout 'Hi, friend!'"

Ron recalls that that first encounter turned into many sessions as they went to dance class every week and did many, many dances together, from ragtime to Israeli square dancing, to folk dancing, to tango and cha-cha. "You name it, we did everything. ...We weren't talking and, after every dance, we just went to our own separate corners," he said. "Eventually friendship blossomed. ...We had a lot of moments that cumulatively led to the building of a relationship. It took time of repeatedly getting together in various circumstances."

Ron and Moon eventually got married in 1999; they just celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary last January.

"One important ingredient in our marriage is we have a lot of things in common in regards to the way we live our lives. ...The fact that neither of us drink, smoke and gamble are important aspects. In addition, we have similar world views, of life and the universe," Ron said.

"I think you can have divergent interests like hobbies or intellectual pursuits. Diverse interests is a good thing because if you have interests that are closely aligned, it results in competition. ...Another important thing is that you are compatible domestically so you have to be able to not just be tolerant but accepting of your spouse's habits at home and have similar interests in," he added.

Moon agrees with Ron about respecting each other's interests. "What he likes,



File photo, taken in January 1999, shows Ron and Moon Smith's wedding at the top of Mt. Tapachau, Saipan. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

he does. At home [or] at his office, he does his hobbies like fixing clocks and watches," she said.

"For my part, Ron knows I love gardening. ...But for dinner, lunch, shopping, or going to events, we are always together. ...Like normal couples, we fight and when we do, we walk away from the situation. When our emotions have settled or cooled down, that's when we talk things over and it works for us," she added.

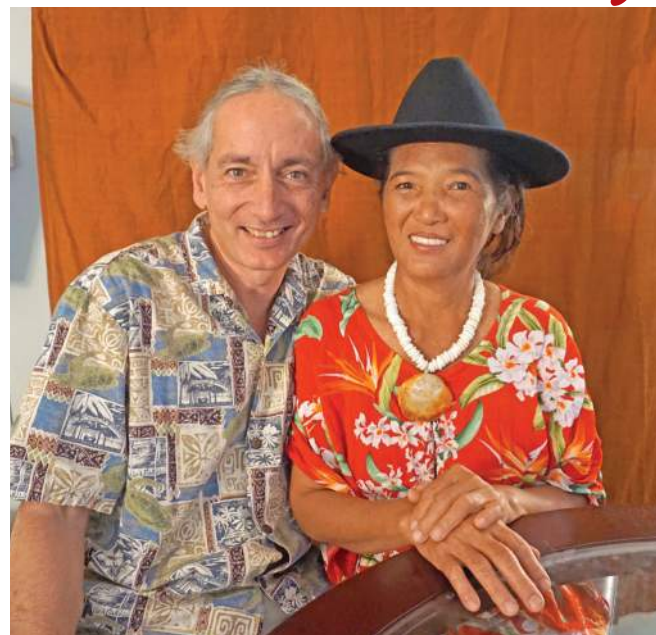
Like dance partners, both individuals must learn each other's strength to perfect a move. This is the same with Ron and Moon.

"I admire her ability to accept things that are outside of the box, so to speak. Her accepting nature and ability to transcend the paradigms that were taught to her previously and go beyond are very attractive. ...Moon lacks most of the things that would create the kind of contention that you see in more contemporary relations. ...It's the lack that I find attractive... and that becomes an attribute in itself," Ron said.

"I also admire her strength of character. ...Even though she is afraid, she will never show it. ...I remember we were in the middle of a massive squall between Sarigan and Anatahan. The waves were 14 feet high and were bringing down the sails. It was 3am and we had big, strong guys cowering underneath the bunk but Moon was out there with me on the deck, reefing sails. ...She was afraid but she doesn't let it

overcome her and, when the cards are down, I know I can depend on her," he added.

"Ron has never changed over the years and has remained very sweet. ...He is



BEA CABRERA

Ron and Moon Smith are celebrating 20 years of marriage this year.

always there for me. When we were still dating and even up to now, when I want to go walking, he would go with me," Moon said,

"He takes good care of me and makes sure I enjoy and have fun. He especially has a good heart... always giving," Moon added.

For Ron and Moon, Saipan will be forever the dance floor of their marriage. "This our home. ...The CNMI is the best place in the world and

I would not like to live anywhere else. We have been to so many places all over the world, all throughout Asia, Europe and many places in the U.S. We've been to Palau and Yap and, every time we go somewhere, the first thing that Moon and I feel is that we miss Saipan," Ron said.

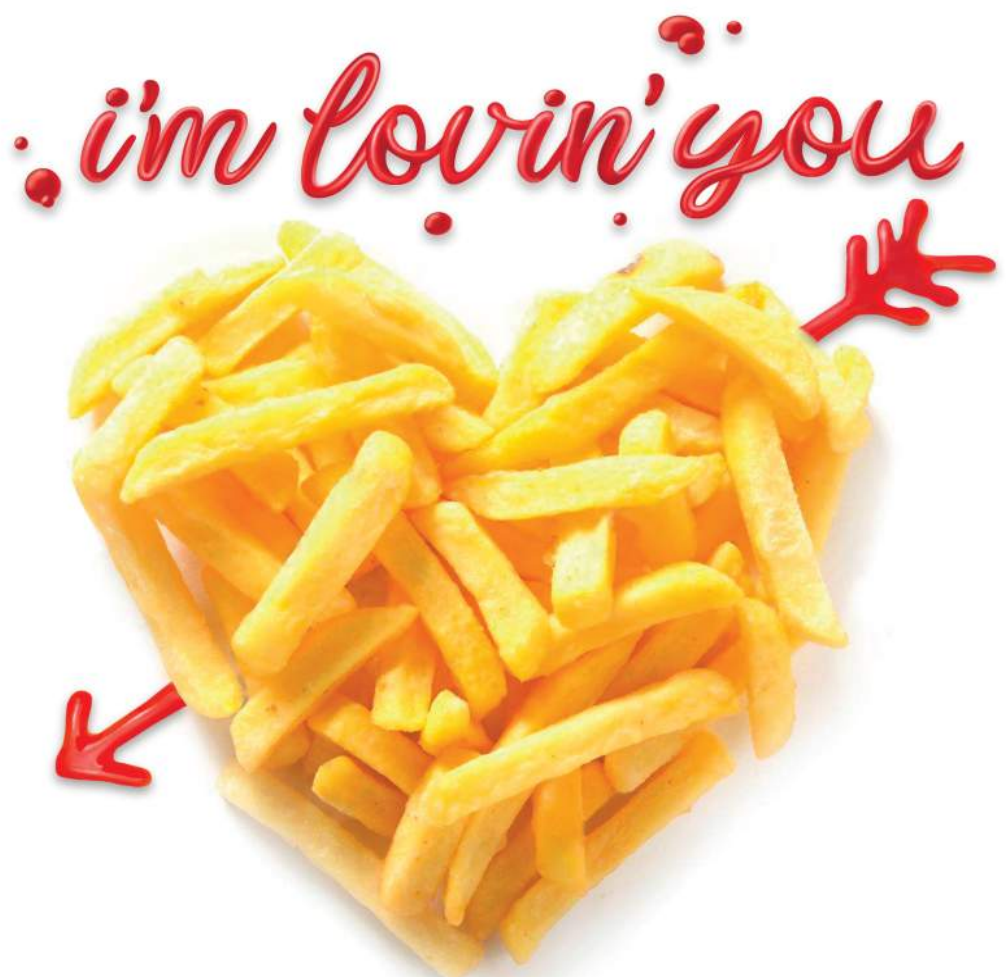
"...More than just the clean air and water are the culture and the people. People here are not like people in other places because here, people

are much more genuine, kind, more forgiving and tolerant. ...There is an opportunity here that would not exist anywhere else because people care about capabilities rather than qualifications," Ron added.

Ron and Moon hopes to continue their dance of life, of togetherness and spend 20 more years of marriage. "I have been calling him 'honey' for 20 years... I tell him I love him everyday because when we don't say I love you to each other it feels like we are missing something," Moon said. "We don't take that for granted and I make sure that I express that every single day. ...That will not change," she added.

"I treat Moon like I am still courting her because if I don't, then I am not treating her properly, because the reality is that importance is still there. How can that person be less important now than that person was when you first met them? The importance is the same," Ron said.

"...Saipan has a loving community and it fosters a loving relationship. That's what we have and it is so incredibly wonderful and we appreciate it everyday," he added.



*Happy Valentine's Day!*



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**Chalan Pale Arnold Road:** 6:30am to 10:00pm

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# Ex-etiquette: Valentine's Day is no day to say you're sorry

By JANN BLACKSTONE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**Q. My ex and I had a lovely life together, but I got bored, met someone new,**

**and left. We had two kids, and although I somewhat regret my actions, I think I'd probably do it again. Of course I'm not with the other guy and after intense**

**amounts of therapy I own that it was my fault and I'm wondering if Valentine's Day is the day to talk to my ex about what I've learned and offer him an apology?**

**What's good ex-etiquette?**

**A.** I've read countless articles by other professionals and laypeople touting the positives of using Valentine's Day as

a vehicle to right one's wrongs. A kind of, "Hey ex, I really screwed up, and on this day of all days I would like to offer an apology." I personally don't get the correlation. Valentine's Day is for lovers, not ex-lovers. And if an apology is required, why wait for a day associated with love and romance to do it? The most opportune time to offer an apology? Immediately! But, you also have to come to grips with why you are apologizing and if it is really what is required for both you and your ex to move on.

Don't get me wrong. I understand firsthand the sentimentality associated with reconciling your differences with an ex and coming out friends on the other side. Breakups and the issues that lead to them are jam-packed with hurt, anger and sadness and navigating through that to once again be cordial, especially if there are children involved, is a huge accomplishment. When my ex finally apologized, there was a shift in our ability to problem-solve. And, as a child custody mediator whose daily work involves guiding couples no longer together through resolving conflict, an

apology can really affect how your ex responds and can set the stage for far more fruitful negotiations.

As a quick note, there is a fine art to offering an apology—and to accepting one. The key is to acknowledge you're wrong without qualifying your behavior. "I'm sorry I hurt you" accepts responsibility for your actions and is a far more effective apology than, "I'm sorry you feel I hurt you." "Thank you, or I forgive you" is a far more gracious way to accept an apology than, "I'm glad you finally see the error of your ways."

But, your question was if Valentine's Day is a good day to share your feelings, and I am of the opinion it is not. I don't think any holiday should be the catalyst for an apology to an ex, particularly Valentine's Day, and even more so if your ex has a new partner. It's lovely that you feel that an apology will reinforce a resolution to your past conflicts, but you want the apology to be the main focus. So rather than concentrate on the day you are offering the apology, make the apology as heartfelt as possible—and do it soon. That's good ex-etiquette.




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**Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm | Dinner Buffet: 6:00pm-9:00pm | Adult: 12 yrs and up | Child: 6-11 yrs | Infant: 5 yrs and under**



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Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm | Last Order: 8:30pm



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Menu: "All you can eat & drink"  
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# Valentine's Day

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Regular

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STORE HOURS: Monday-Saturday 8:30am - 6:00pm | Sunday 9:00am - 12 noon

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# Looking for a unique Valentine's gift? Personalize it!



Personalized T-shirts, tote bags, pouches, luggage tags, and ribbons can be had at the Personalization Gift Shop inside T Galleria by DFS in Garapan.

BEA CABRERA

By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

This Valentine's Day, pouring your creative minds and hearts into our gifts to create unique presents can be a challenge but a shop called **'Personalization Gift Shop'** at the T Galleria by DFS in Garapan is heaven-sent.

Located near the Hard Rock Café, it is not hard to miss it because it looks like a big box of gift waiting for you to pick up an item and personalize it.

"Those looking for a unique and personal gift for their loved ones this Valentine's Day can choose from

our collection of monogrammable accessories," said DFS promotion manager Jamika Reyes-Tajeron.

Among the products that you can get instantly personalized are T-shirts, tote bags, leather pouch, luggage tags, and ribbons.

"The most popular with our local customers are the T-shirts, which, along with getting it monogrammed, comes with a stylish patch of their choice," she added.

Customers can get their item personalized while they wait.

The Personalization Gift Shop opened on Jan. 6 and it will be of service until

Feb. 17, 2019.

You can have a monogram of three initials stitched on the T-shirt for only \$13, or stitch up to three initials on the tote bag for only \$20. Print your message and add emojis on your personalized holiday ribbon for only \$4 per meter, add up to two initials in gold and silver on your luggage tag for only \$20, add up to three initials in gold or silver on the monogrammed pouch for only \$35 and mix and match limited edition patches where you have 11 styles of

patches to choose from for only \$3 each.

To add value, if you buy two items, say a shirt and a patch, you get 20-percent discount.

Giving a customized and personalized gift this Valentine's Day is sure to be well received because, at the end of the day, it is the time and care that you put into the gift that truly matters.

The Personalization Gift Shop is open everyday during store hours between 10:30am and 10:30pm and is located in the southern part of T Galleria.



There are different colors to choose from and these pouches, luggage tags, and ribbons are ready to be personalized.

BEA CABRERA



## Great gift ideas for this Valentine's Day!

Shop exclusive monogrammable accessories, personalize your special gift for your love at great prices at our

### PERSONALIZATION GIFT SHOP



Monogrammed bags, accessories and more!

from now till February 17. While supplies last.



T GALLERIA BY DFS, SAIPAN  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan MP 96950  
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10:30AM - 10:30PM



Choose your favorite color of cute and trendy tote bags and personalize them with your loved one's initials.

BEA CABRERA



# What is your *love language*?

By BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT



Ahh, love...as the song goes, find one hundred ways to show your loved ones how much you care.

According to The 5 Languages of Love by Gary Chapman, understanding your own love language and the language of the other person helps you to effectively communicate your love to them. The five languages mentioned in the book are quality time, words of affirmation, receiving gifts, acts of service or devotion, and physical touch.

In whatever type of relationship, family members and friends expressing rather than repressing your love in a language that is easy to grasp



"Service ...My acts of service to my husband is my way of showing him I love him after 30 years of marriage. As the saying goes, 'Food is a way to a man's heart' and so I love nourishing him with my cooking."

—Ellen Duran, Chalan Kanoa



"We celebrated our 12th anniversary last Feb. 2 and I always tell my husband 'I love him forever' to reassure him and that makes my language of love words of affirmation. Aside from words, I believe that you have to act it as well because words without actions is nothing. You have to mean what you say."

—Lynie Cabrera, Kagman



—Ruby Pabalan, San Antonio

"For me, it's physical touch by giving my mother hugs as she always cares for me. I do spend a lot of time with her to show my affection but the best way for me to express my love is by giving her hugs. I know that brightens her day, especially after a long day of work. My Valentine's Day message for my mom is, 'Thank you, Mom, for taking care of me for the past 15 years. You have done so much and I love and appreciate what you have done and I will do my best to take care of you when I get older.'"

—Joseph Guoha, Saipan

"My language of love is quality time. I have an eight-year-old grandson, Franklin, and he has been under my care since birth. The time that I give to him is my way of showing him how much I love him. Little things like bringing and fetching him from school, cooking for him, etc., all adds up and I cannot imagine not doing those things because I only want the best for him."



"I tell my grandmother that I love her so that she knows and will not forget. She takes care of me, cooks my favorite food, and takes me anywhere she goes. I want her to be healthy always."

—Jonathan L. Munez, San Vicente Elementary School

## How do you say I love you in other languages? Google Translate will tell you

By BRETT MOLINA  
USA TODAY

There are so many ways to say "I love you."

We're not talking flowers or candy. Those three little words take on multiple forms through a variety of languages, and even emojis.

According to Google, the heart-eyes emoji (🥰) is the fourth most popular emoji worldwide, followed by the traditional heart (❤️) emoji.

Google also says translations on its Translate service spike on Valentine's Day, and translations of "I love you" more than double on February 14.

Here are the top 10 languages users like to translate "I love you" from English, according to Google Translate (pronunciations in parentheses):

1. Spanish -- te amo
2. Portuguese -- eu te amo
3. Korean -- ??? (salanghae)
4. French -- je t'aime
5. Arabic -- ??? ("ahbak")
6. Russian -- ? ??? (YA lyublyu tebya)
7. Japanese -- ??? (Watashi wa, anata o aishiteimasu)
8. German -- ich liebe dich
9. Indonesian -- Aku cinta kamu
10. Simplified Chinese -- ??? (Wo ...i ni)

Users of Google Assistant will notice some changes to the voice-activated service on Valentine's Day. Say "serenade me" and be greeted by a love song, or ask the Assistant "do you love me" to take a brief quiz.

Follow Brett Molina on Twitter: @brettmolina23.

**STOREWIDE SALE**

# Valentine's Day

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SOME CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY.



# What to do on Valentine's Day

BY BEA CABRERA  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Valentine's Day is here again, giving everyone a chance to make a grand gesture of showing loved-ones, family, and friends how much they are loved and appreciated. From meals to flowers and gift items, no hearts will be broken because of these sweet deals and finds around Saipan.

## Aqua Resort Club

You say it best when you "Say It With Dinner" on Thursday, Feb. 14, from 6pm onwards at Kevin's The Prime Rib & Seafood of Aqua Resort Club in San Roque. Wine and dine your special someone by filling your tummies with a seven-course menu carefully prepared by executive chef Daryl Babauta while listening to live piano music and a free rose on the table for the ladies.

Due to its limited seating, reservation is recommended. Call (670) 322-1234 or visit their website, [www.aquare-](http://www.aquare-)

sortsaipan.com.

## Blossoms Floral Shop

Getting flowers makes anyone feel special and Blossoms Floral Shop encourages you to light the fire with their flowers and gifts this Valentine's Day. There is an array of bouquets to choose from that will represent the number of times you love your special someone, plus chocolates and candies that will evoke the sweetest smile. Fluffy and cute stuffed animals can be beside your loved one all the time, while bath and body products can spray the scent of love in the air.

Visit them at J.E.T. Building, Gualo Rai Saipan. Valentine's Day hours run from Monday to Saturday, from 8:30am to 6pm, and Sunday, from 8:30am to 1pm. You can also call (670) 235-2276/7372.

## Design Florist

Looking for unique floral arrangements for Valentine's Day? Design Florist has beautiful selections that will meet your needs. They offer a doz-

en red roses arrangements in regular, special, and deluxe styles. They offer half-a-dozen red rose arrangement in regular and deluxe styles and they offer three-rose arrangements in regular and deluxe styles. They also have a large selection of stuffed toys and other gifts that can go with the flower arrangement that you choose.

For more information, visit them at the Cabrera Center, Beach Road, Garapan from Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 6pm, and Sunday, from 9am to 12pm. You can call them at (670) 235-5993 or 235-8572

## Grand Vrio Resort

Make Valentine's Day a grand celebration with that special someone at the Dolphin Restaurant of the Grand Vrio Resort in Garapan. Valentine's Day candlelit dinner awaits couples for only \$98 per couple. Aside from the delicious dinner, enjoy a bottle of Woodbridge Wine. Dinner is from 5:30pm to 9pm.

Tropicana Restaurant invites you to enjoy Seafood

Night every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Regular price for adults is \$40 and \$20 for children (local rates apply). Sunday brunch is also available from 11am to 2pm. Starlight BBQ dinner buffet is open from 5:30pm to 9pm. Regular price for adults is \$43 and \$32 for children (local rates apply).

The AIRI Coffee Lounge serves the best coffee and cakes in town from 10am to 6pm. Invite family and friends to enjoy the garden and watch the Duo Band and the Polynesian dance show from 8:30pm to 10:30pm.

For reservations, call (670) 237-2527 or email [food.beverage@grandvrio-](mailto:food.beverage@grandvrio-)

saipan.com.

## iShop

It's a storewide sale at iShop featuring brands like Quick-silver, Skechers, Havaianas, Speedo, Nike, Crocs, and Sun Bum that will help you give the perfect gift for your significant other. They have gift items for any budget. Enjoy discounts of up to 60 percent on selected items.

Visit their branches at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan or call (670) 233-2616, at Kanoa Resort in Susupe or call (670) 235-3718, and Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan or call (670) 237-0729.

**Personalization Gift**

## Shop at DFS

Put his or her initials on a T-shirt, tote bag, pouch, luggage tag, or ribbon and the end result is a perfect personalized and creative gift. Different patches of emojis are available to make your chosen item look fun and unforgettable. Visit the Personalization Gift Shop at T Galleria by DFS in Garapan while supplies last. Promo is up until Feb. 17, 2019.

## Docomo Pacific

Be better together by keeping in touch with your loved one this Valentine's Day and beyond by getting him or her an iPhone X from Docomo Pacific. You can avail of an iPhone X R 128 GB for only \$199 and iPhoneX R 64 GB for only \$99.

For more information, visit [docomopacific.com](http://docomopacific.com).

## Valentine's Day shellfish feast—when you want to make a fuss without making a fuss

By NICK KINDELSPERGER  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The last place you'll catch my wife and me on Valentine's Day is dining at a restaurant. Since I'm a food writer, I eat out nearly every day, and few calendar dates strike me with more fear than Feb. 14. See, Valentine's Day is one of a handful of occasions when everyone else decides that they have to go out too. Good reservation times vanish. Service becomes harried. Count in the cost of scheduling a baby sitter, and we

might as well walk around with our credit card number plastered onto our foreheads.

Instead, we celebrate Valentine's Day at home, using it as an excuse to ignore the entire world (with the exception of our daughter). Plus, we splurge on items we'd hardly be able to afford at a restaurant. You know the good stuff: Champagne, shellfish and fancy chocolate.

Cooking at home, of course, is not without its own hassles. Sweating in the kitchen for hours to craft the perfect romantic meal can feel

just as stressful as braving the wilds of the restaurant scene on Valentine's Day. That's why our menu consists of items that require the least amount of effort to prepare, yet make you feel like a million bucks.

Instead of dirtying a bunch of silverware, we devour all the food with our hands, maybe because it's romantic, allowing us to satisfy some primal urge, but mostly since it's more fun.

Oysters need nothing more than to be opened. While this does require some

*Continued on Next Page*



Mussels can be cooked myriad ways; this version keeps it simple with tomatoes, white wine, garlic and red pepper flakes, for a little heat.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

**LIGHT THE FIRE WITH**

## Blossoms Floral Shop

Be the cupid this Valentine's Day and celebrate with your Special Someone. Tell your valentine she has "the most beautiful eyes" just like the array of roses you give. Be as sweet and luscious as the chocolates and candies she eats. Hug her with the stuffed animal you send her. Shower her with Bath and Body products that she so loves, and spend the rest of the day just telling her, you love her this...

# Valentine's Day

Every time I see you,  
I feel flames  
in my heart,  
that lights up,  
because  
**I LOVE YOU!**

Located at J.E.T. Building, Gualo Rai • P.O. Box 500070 CK, Saipan, MP 96950  
Valentine's Shop Hours: Monday to Saturday 8:30am - 6:00pm  
SUNDAY 8:30am - 1:00pm  
**Tel. No.: 235-2276/7372 • Fax: 670-235-7271**





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**docomo pacific**  
Better Together

finagling—and you will need to purchase an oyster knife for stress-free shucking, and an old towel helps avoid serious injuries—once popped, all you need to do is slurp away. Sure, some might like a squeeze of lemon or a drop of a vinegary mignonette, but if you score great oysters from a trusted fishmonger, why cover them up? We like to order a dozen, usually six from the East Coast and six from the West Coast, though we let the fishmonger direct us toward the freshest offerings.

Oysters slurped straight from the shell just beg for Champagne. It's no trouble to find a good bottle in the \$30 to \$40 range from a nice wine shop. While that's far more than we'd normally spend for a night at home, know that the same bottle would cost about \$100 at a restaurant. See how we're sort of saving money?

Plus, the next course is mussels. Even though you'll be purchasing the bivalves by the pound (3 pounds is about right for two), they are still among the most affordable shellfish options around. And they couldn't be simpler to prepare.

Just create a flavorful base, add the mussels and cook until they spring open. Sure, mussels need to be cleaned and debearded—a five-minute job if you're counting—but they can be cooked in less than five minutes.

While there are innumerable versions of the dish (one of our favorites is with coconut milk and green Thai chile paste), this year we are going with a simple combination of tomatoes and white wine. Sauté some onion and garlic, add some tomatoes and the wine, dump in the mussels and, three minutes later, dinner is served. The only way you could screw this up is if you forget the crusty bread to dip into the mussel-im-bued liquid. Seriously, dunking fresh bread into the liquid is probably the best part, so don't forget that, OK?

And then we end with chocolate, because why wouldn't you? Usually, that just means a nice bar of dark chocolate, though we've been known to spring for a few chocolate truffles. Whatever your chocolate craving of choice, it will work here.

And that's it. With a minimal amount of effort, you have a shellfish-stocked meal, plenty of bubbly and never have to worry about asking for the check.

### MUSSELS WITH TOMATO AND WHITE WINE

Prep: 10 minutes  
Cook: 10 minutes  
Makes: 2 servings

3 pounds mussels  
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
1 yellow onion, thinly sliced  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt  
1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes  
1/4 teaspoon dried oregano  
1 cup crushed canned tomatoes  
1/2 cup dry white wine  
Handful fresh parsley, chopped  
Crusty bread

1. Rinse and scrub mussels under cold water. Remove beard from mussels, if necessary. Discard any mussels that won't close if gently pressed.

2. Heat oil in a large pot set over medium heat. Add onion, garlic and salt; cook until onion softens, about 5 minutes. Add red pepper flakes and oregano; cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Pour in the tomatoes; cook until they have slightly thickened, 3 to 5 minutes. Pour in wine.

3. Increase heat to high to bring to a boil. Add the mussels, cover the pot and cook, stirring every minute, until all the mussels have opened, 3 to 4 minutes. Discard any that don't. Turn off the heat; add the parsley.

4. Divide mussels and liquid between two large bowls. Serve with crusty bread.



# Health & Wellness

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## 7 things I learned about wellness that will enrich our lives in 2019

By ELIZABETH WELLINGTON  
PHILLY.COM

**T**en years ago, wellness was about the hippy and the dippy. My, how times have changed. Today, according to the Global Wellness Institute, wellness takes in \$4.2 trillion in annual global spending.

No wonder Philadelphia is right on the wave. We may be cheesesteak central, but most of our new businesses are promoting a wellness lifestyle: Both suburban towns and Center City continue to welcome boutique fitness outfits, such as Walnut Street's Rumble and Cyclebar in Plymouth Meeting. Spiritual haunts like Syreeta Scott's Sable—a downtown location will open later this month—and Angela Monaco's Ritual Shoppe sell sage, candles, and essential oils so one can have a wellness experience in the comfort of her own home. And every upstart fashion label is more concerned with slow fashion than with producing the next must-see runway show.

Recently, I spent two days in New York City chasing wellness trends at the Active Collective, where boutique owners go to find the latest in athleisure trends, and at the Global Wellness Institute, where experts study the economic impact of wellness. This is what I learned about 2019 wellness trends.

### 1 Athleisure isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

The good old days when getting dressed up at Le Bec-Fin have been replaced with yoga pants for Sunday brunch at Parc. Avocado toast included. I spent a recent Friday afternoon with Ashley Anapolsky, buyer for Philly online athleisure site Addison Bay at Active Collective, where I saw the latest trends in active wear, from Athletist to Spiritual Gangster.

Top trends include: reversible leggings and jackets, multicolor camo, from hot pink to banana yellow to cobalt blue to—aack!—biker shorts. “I don’t know how this is going to go over,” said Anapolsky, who admittedly picked up a few. I don’t either.

### 2 Wellness is driving real estate, too. But it's not cheap.

Fitler Club, the high-end social club near 30th Street Station, is opening piecemeal throughout the year with a theme of cultivating a holistic approach to health and wellness issues. The club will feature a gym with an indoor pool and restaurants that specialize in healthy fare, from juice bars to super-food cuisine—think lots of kale and cauliflower—courtesy of chef Kevin Sbraga. Wellness real estate, according to the Global Wellness Institute, accounts for \$13.4 billion in worldwide sales.

### 3 How our clothing is made will matter more and more

Phrases like zero waste, sustainability, and slow fashion will continue to dominate our fashion lexicon. Luckily, Philadelphia is on point in following these important movements. And We Evolve continues to make resale desirable with subscription boxes. Betsy Cook of Haddonfield's National Picnic makes her pieces on the sales floor. And in coming weeks, United By Blue will launch a shoe

collaboration with fellow environmentally conscious company SOLE that they say is the world's most eco-friendly—it features recycled cork midsole fashioned from algae, foam, and rice rubber. “We’ll see radical innovation in sustainable textiles,” said Beth McGroarty, vice president of research and forecasting at the Global Wellness Summit. “If manufacturing is a mean, faceless business, more ethical fashion brands will provide transparency into how they treat—and even celebrate by name—the artisans that created your wardrobe.”

### 4 Wellness is not a luxury of the uber-white and uber-rich.

Modern-day wellness habits have the tough reputation of being a luxury for the rich. People of color and poorer people don’t see it as something they have time for or can actually afford, said Ophelia Yeung of the Global Wellness Institute. It’s hard to forget that wellness experiences can be done at home, too. Apps like Calm help us meditate, and email blasts from Black Zen help women of color (but really, any woman) attack everyday problems from a holistic point of view. “Coming home to a tidy space, lighting a candle, and playing your favorite relaxing music can really set the tone to unwind,” Monaco said. “Burning some Palo Santo or spraying my favorite intentional spray can change the energy.” And most people, especially Oprah, will tell you

good energy unlocks our wellness.

### 5 Get your meditation on. Anywhere will do.

According to the Global Wellness Institute, meditation is evolving from a singular to a plural practice, meaning today you might try transcendental meditation, tomorrow you might just stare at a wall and try to rid yourself of monkey mind. “It seems like we’ve reached peak mindfulness and meditation, but we really haven’t,” McGroarty said. “After years of talk, people are actually doing it.” On the horizon are yoga trucks where people can meet for yoga—not order tacos. Locally, yoga studios like Yoga on Main in Manayunk, Pa., have instituted weekly meditation practices. For example, every other Monday it features chakra meditation and oneness blessing. That is definitely on my bucket list.

### 6 The science of smell is the next wellness frontier.

The sense of smell is on the cusp of a wellness moment as scientists study the impact of scent on our physical and emotional well-being. Under the umbrella of aromatherapy, it’s long been known that candles and oils can help us feel better. But, according to McGroarty, companies like Nue Co. are marketing anti-stress supplement as fragrances, and restaurants—think Autograph Brasserie in Wayne, Pa.—are offering scent-based menus that

pair wine and foods with Diptyque candles. “It seems that a lot of my brands, like Ferragamo, Hugo Boss, even Armani are using real essential oils in their fragrances,” said Nir Guy, owner of King of Prussia specialty store Perfumology. “The more natural things they are putting in are making our brains happier. People are less allergic to it, and they don’t sneeze as much when they come into my store.”

### 7 Dying well is just as important as living well.

We are so afraid of death—I know I am—that we don’t give it much thought in life. As a result, we watch our friends and loved ones rush through the process eager to get the death and burials over with. Ironically, the wellness market, which has extending life at its center, is part of the problem. Suddenly, McGroarty said, it seems a “death positive” movement is here, bringing with it talk of making the dying process more humane. And just like birthing doulas who help women give birth in a loving surrounding, there are death doulas who help us die with dignity. But at the heart of our relationship with death is coming to terms with how we are living, said Henry Fersko-Weiss, president of the International End-of-Life Doula Association. “If you don’t think you’ve had a life worth living, the dying process becomes even more unbearable,” Fersko-Weiss said.

## Mayo Clinic minute: Are there health benefits to taking turmeric?



Are there health benefits to taking turmeric?

DREAMSTIME

Can an ancient yellow root spice be good for you? A recent study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences shows curcumin, an active ingredient in turmeric, effectively kills certain cancer cells. While research continues on the role turmeric plays in treating cancer, there may be other health benefits to ingesting the spice.

You may have it in your spice rack or enjoy it in South Asian meals. Turmeric is derived from a

plant similar to ginger and has long been used for medicinal purposes.

“Turmeric has natural anti-inflammatory compounds called curcuminoids, and these curcuminoids have been associated with a positive effect on various diseases,” says Anya Guy, a Mayo Clinic dietitian. Those diseases include Type 2 diabetes, obesity, inflammatory bowel disease and cancer.

“Although curcumin or turmeric has anti-inflammatory properties, if you are diagnosed with a condition

such as cancer or diabetes, speak to your health care provider before taking the supplement,” says Guy.

Turmeric can be ingested in powder form or in mixes such as curry or chutney. “I recommend choosing more of the powder or natural forms and also try to eat it with a meal to increase its absorption,” says Guy.

How much is safe to take each day you may ask? “Turmeric is considered to be safe at doses up to 8 grams per day,” says Guy. (*Mayo Clinic News Network*)



## World

## Thailand puzzles over political surprises from royals

**BANGKOK (AP)**—A Thai political party swore loyalty to the king after its stunning decision to nominate the monarch's sister as its candidate for prime minister backfired when the king called the move inappropriate and unconstitutional.

The statement of fealty comes as the country ponders a whirlwind Friday in which Princess Ubolratana Mahidol broke with tradition proscrib-

ing the monarchy's involvement with politics to become a candidate for the Thai Raksa Chart Party, only to have her brother, King Maha Vajiralongkorn, invalidate her action with a late night order.

Thai Raksa Chart's statement said the party loyally accepted the king's order and expressed deep gratitude to Ubolratana for her kindness toward the party.

Ubolratana, who is active

on Instagram, did not directly mention the king's order in a Saturday message, merely thanking people for their support and encouragement and insisting on her sincere desire to see Thailand progress with rights and opportunities for all its people.

Thailand's March 24 election will be the country's first



Ubolratana

since a 2014 military coup put in place a junta determined to reshape the political system to eradicate the influence of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, whose allies have won every national election since 2001.

So it was not only a shock that Ubolratana was formally entering politics, but also that

she was doing so in alliance with a Thaksin-backed party. Her candidacy would have pitted her against the junta leader and current Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, the preferred choice for premier of the pro-royalist military.

Thaksin has been in exile since 2008, two years after was ousted by the military in a 2006 coup. Thailand's establishment has spent more than a decade trying to neuter his po-

litical machine through court rulings, constitutional rewrites and other changes to the electoral system. In addition to deepening political divisions that have flared into protests and street violence, the campaign has had little success.

"Chin up and keep moving forward! We learn from past experiences but live for today and the future. Cheer up! Life must go on!" Thaksin tweeted on Saturday.

## Virginia lieutenant governor wants accusations investigated

**RICHMOND, Va. (AP)**—Virginia's embattled lieutenant governor on Saturday called for authorities, including the FBI, to investigate sexual assault allegations made against him while defying widespread calls for his resignation with a plea for "space in this moment for due process."

Democratic Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax issued a statement repeating his strong denials that he had ever sexually assaulted anyone and made clear he does not intend to immediately resign, despite having lost almost his entire base of support.

Meanwhile, Gov. Ralph Northam pledged to work at healing the state's racial divide and made his first official appearance a week after a racist photo on his 1984 medical school yearbook page sur-

facted and he acknowledged wearing blackface in the 1980s. Northam has also defied calls from practically his entire party to step down.

Saturday capped an astonishing week in Virginia politics that saw all three of the state's top elected officials embroiled in potentially career-ending scandals, and the state Democratic Party on the verge of collapse.

Two women have accused Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax of sexual assault. After the second allegation was made Friday, Fairfax — the second African-American to ever win statewide office — was barraged with demands to step down from top Democrats, including a number of presidential hopefuls and most of Virginia's congressional delegation.

## Congo's new president urges thousands of exiles: Come home

**BRAZZAVILLE, Republic of Congo (AP)**—Albert Tumba says he was forced to leave Congo in 2010 for neighboring Republic of Congo. As a journalist, he had denounced malpractice in the sports ministry and had to leave with his family out of fear for his safety.

"Threatened with death, I had to cross the river and reach Brazzaville, where I enjoy refugee status with my wife and children. Life is hard here but we are safe," the 65-year-old Tumba said.

Now, after a historic election in Congo, he believes his "long ordeal" may come to an end.

He and tens of thousands of other Congolese who fled, mostly for political reasons, to neighboring Republic of Congo under Joseph Kabila's 17-year rule say that with opposition leader Felix Tshisekedi now president in their home country, they can envision returning soon.

The new president on Friday, during a visit to Republic of Congo's capital, invited all

political exiles to come home.

"All those who have left the country and who have been pushed into exile for political or ideological reasons are free to return home," Tshisekedi said. "To you our compatriots of the diaspora, we will create favorable conditions to put an end to everything that made you flee abroad."

Everyone will be needed to move Congo forward, Tshisekedi said. He has inherited a vast, troubled nation after a disputed election that was delayed by more than two years as many feared that Kabila would try to stay in power.

"The long-awaited moment by more than 60,000 (Congo) refugees in Congo Brazzaville has finally arrived. Because many of us, very old today, were not going to survive (if Kabila stayed on)," said the 71-year-old E. Mutombo, who asserted that he had been close to the late President Mobutu Sese Seko. He came to Brazzaville in 1996 as Mobutu's rule neared an end.

## SAFELY HOME IN GOD'S PARADISE

"Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart, and yield a harvest through perseverance." **[Luke 8:15]**

## JACKSON WEILBACHER JACK

[October 19, 1964 - February 05, 2019]

was called to his eternal life on February 05, 2019. Entering the pearly gates of Paradise, he is welcomed by his parents, †Simsack I. and †Carmina W. Jack, together with his siblings †Rita W. Benjamin, †Kennedy W. Benjamin and †Corporal Darence W. Jack; parents-in-law †Jose Ch. and †Felisa S. Pangelinan; his brother and sister-in-law †Judah Rekemesik and †Rose S. Pangelinan; and his niece †Naomi Therese DLG. Benjamin.

In life, **Jackson** lived a happy, fulfilling life with strong family ties. He was loved not only by his family but by many whom he crossed path with. His warm and joyful personality, laughter, jokes, kindness and helping hand, alongside his companionship, dedication and commitment at work will be significantly missed.

His outpouring love, peaceful spirit, and loving memories will forever be in the hearts of his wife **Felisa Sablan Pangelinan Jack**, his children and grandson **Rosezon S., Karmina S. (Jaxson Leland)**, and **Joe Brandon P. Jack**; his siblings and their families **Jesusa W.B. Rekemesik; Benjamin Roland; Edwin W. and Semerina S. Benjamin; Nicholas W. and Elaine DLG. Benjamin; Josephine B. and Joe Certeza; Lydia J. and Hoyt Blailes; Victorino and Deborah S. Jack; Dolorina J. and Diego R. Babauta; Wayne W. Jack; Jacqueline Jack and Melisa T. Jack and Jeffrey Olopai**; mother-in-law **Ofelia A. Pangelinan**; in-laws **Mary Elizabeth P. and Roque San Nicolas; Lee S. Pangelinan and Fred Guzman; Lawrence S. Pangelinan and Becky Manalo; Luis S. Pangelinan and Evita Kawai; Joseph S. Pangelinan and Megan Agulto; Jolisa S. Pangelinan and Tomkins Siliga**; and special nephew **Joseph John P. Fujihira**. He will be remembered and missed by his many aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces, friends, and especially by his coworkers at the Department of Public Safety.

Masses of intention in his memory are offered daily at 6:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Funeral service for Jackson will be on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 beginning with the recitation of the Holy Rosary at 7:00 a.m. at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation's chapel. The funeral cortege will proceed to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 8:00 a.m. for responso prayers, visitation and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. followed immediately with the Rite of Committal at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Your prayers, presence and thoughts are sincerely appreciated.

*Felisa Sablan Pangelinan Jack, Children and Grandchild  
Weilbacher, Benjamin, Jack and Sablan, Pangelinan Families*



# Life & Style

## Grammys, Ariana Grande trade words about axed performance

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Grammys producer Ken Ehrlich said the show had multiple conversations with Ariana Grande about possibly performing Sunday but the singer “felt it was too late for her to pull something together,” but Grande accused Ehrlich of lying.

Grande fired back on Twitter on Thursday, saying “i’ve kept my mouth shut but now you’re

lying about me.”

Ehrlich told The Associated Press that Grande isn’t performing at the Grammys and that the Recording Academy wanted her to perform after having “conversations over the past month or so.”

“As it turned out when we finally got the point where



Grande

we thought maybe it would work, she felt it was too late for her to pull something together for sure,” Ehrlich said in an interview Thursday.

But Grande wrote on Twitter that she “can pull together a performance over night and you know that, Ken.”

## ‘Veep’ star Julia Louis-Dreyfus no fan of Trump

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)**—“Veep” star Julia Louis-Dreyfus doesn’t know who she’ll support for president in 2020, but is sure about who she won’t.

She called Donald Trump a “pretend president” and said “I’m not a fan.”



Louis-Dreyfus

Louis-Dreyfus was asked her political views Friday while promoting the final,

seven-episode season of her HBO series, which begins on March 31. “Veep” has won three Emmys for best comedy series and the series star won four best actress awards.

She’s on location shooting a movie in Austria and said via

satellite that she’s is constantly approached by people who ask her opinion on President

Trump. She says she doesn’t hesitate to give an answer.

“I have no idea who I’m going to support in 2020 except to say that it’s a Democrat,” she said.

She gave few hints about how “Veep” will end, except to say her character, Selina Meyer, “is as true to herself as she can possibly be.”

“Saying goodbye to it was a very hard thing to do, even though it was our decision,” she said.

## ‘Big Little Lies’ adds superfan Meryl Streep in new season

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)**—Meryl Streep’s self-claimed addiction to “Big Little Lies” had the bonus of turning the Oscar-winning actress into a star of the HBO drama’s second season.

“I loved this show. I was addicted to it. I thought it was an amazing exercise in what we know and don’t know about people—about family, about friends, about how we flirted with the mystery of things,” Streep said Friday. “I wanted to do it to be in that world. The world they created was amazing.”

In the seven-episode sea-

son beginning in June, Streep plays Mary Louise Wright, mother-in-law to Nicole Kidman’s Celeste, whose abusive husband Perry died at the end of season one.

David E. Kelley, who wrote both seasons, joked that the much-acclaimed Streep had to pass muster to get the role.

“We looked at Meryl’s demo reel,” Kelley told a TV critics meeting. He noted that the character of Mary Louise was created by Liane Moriarty, whose novel “Big Little Lies” was adapted for the original season.

Nicole Kidman and Reese

Witherspoon return as executive producers and stars of the drama set in Monterey, California. Returning co-stars Laura Dern, Zoe Kravitz and Shailene Woodley comprise the so-called “Monterey Five” circle, joined together by dark secrets.

“We had such a good time doing it and the desire to spend more time together had a lot to do with it,” said Kidman, explaining the drama’s return. “Also, there was an enormous demand from the audience ... It was generated by the audience, and the desire to see these people still in existence.”

“It was when my creativity & self expression was stifled by you, that i decided not to attend. i hope the show is exactly what you want it to be and more,” she continued.

Variety reported this week that Grande had a disagreement with Grammy produc-

ers on which songs she would perform, so she pulled out. A representative for the singer didn’t return an email seeking comment.

In another tweet Thursday, Grande said she “offered 3 different songs.”

“It’s about collaboration.

it’s about feeling supported. it’s about art and honesty. not politics. not doing favors or playing games. it’s just a game y’all.. and i’m sorry but that’s not what music is to me.”

A representative for Ehrlich didn’t immediately reply to an email seeking comment.

## Studio immortalizes ‘Big Bang Theory’ as series nears finale

**BURBANK, Calif. (AP)**—Champagne briefly replaced scripts Thursday for a ceremony renaming the nondescript Stage 25 on the sprawling Warner Bros. production lot after the sitcom “The Big Bang Theory.”

Still television’s most popular comedy, the show will exit the airwaves and the studio it has called home for 12 years this spring.

Actors Jim Parsons, Johnny Galecki, Kaley Cuoco, Mayim Bialik and the rest of the comic ensemble ran through lines for an episode that will air in early March before studio brass joined

them to unveil a plaque.

“We’re going to be miserable when this is over,” series creator Chuck Lorre told the cast and assembled crew. “I’m so sad.”

Lorre said it wasn’t his call to end the series, but now that it’s been made the time feels right.

The cast rehearsed an episode that hints at some upcoming transitions with barely a flub. It’s not an unfamiliar ritual: they will have made 279 episodes by the time it all ends in May. The episode they rehearsed will be filmed before a live audience later this week.

Only four other studios at

Warner Bros. have a similar plaque for the series that filmed there, with others named for “Two and a Half Men,” “ER,” “Friends” and “Ellen.”

Given that he was also behind “Two and a Half Men,” it’s the second such honor that Lorre is responsible for. One of the most successful comedy producers of all time, Lorre also produces “Mom” and “Young Sheldon” for CBS.

While broad, mainstream fare is his forte, Lorre just won a Golden Globe when his Netflix series “The Kominsky Method,” which stars Michael Douglas and Alan Arkin, was named best comedy.

## ‘This Is Us’ star Milo Ventimiglia honored at Harvard

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)**—“This Is Us” actor Milo Ventimiglia was honored Friday as Man of the Year by Harvard University’s Hasty Pudding Theatricals at Farkas Hall in Cambridge.



Ventimiglia

The Emmy-nominated actor received the award after a roast from Elizabeth Mann and Mariana Sanchez Medina of the Hasty Pudding Theatrics, who poked fun at some of his B-list acting roles and his status as a

sex symbol.

“Milo was named the world’s sexiest vegetarian alive by PETA, even though everyone sees you as a piece of meat,” the two Harvard undergrads quipped.

Before being able to hold the pudding pot, Ventimiglia had to endure a little extra embarrassment: the Pudding had Ventimiglia sing Fergie smash “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” (Ventimiglia starred in the music video)

and gave a lap dance to one of its members.

Ventimiglia took the teasing in good fun, emphasizing how proud he was to receive the title.

“My mom, who declined being my date two years in a row for the Emmys, made sure to be here tonight,” he told the crowd.

After the roast, the Hasty Pudding had the opening night for “France France Revolution,” the troupe’s first production to feature women in the cast. Medina and Mann produced the play.

## Discovery of genetic disorder forces confession of affair

**DEAR ABBY:** Ten years ago, I had an affair with a married man that resulted in a pregnancy and then a miscarriage. I was also married at the time. Pathology testing revealed that the child had a rare genetic disorder inherited on the paternal side. My husband’s genetic test indicated that he was not a carrier. The revelation led to my admission of the affair and our divorce.

I didn’t tell the other man. His wife was unable to have children, so I didn’t think it would impact him. I recently found out he is divorced and remarried to a younger woman. I have no idea whether they plan to have children, but I’m torn about telling him he is a carrier for that life-threatening disorder.

Selfishly, I do not want to reopen this shameful period of my life, so my instinct is to leave it alone, but I feel morally obligated to let him know. Should I contact him and tell him he was the father of the child and that he is a carrier of this genetic abnormality?

TORN IN MISSISSIPPI

**DEAR TORN:** The kind thing to do would be to contact your former lover privately. Explain that you do not mean to intrude, but he needs to know something important. Then inform him that it could save him and

his wife a world of heartache if they have genetic testing done before planning to have a child, and why. You would be doing them both an enormous favor if you disclose it.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Decades ago, while I was a college student, a friend took the time and interest to help me through a severe bout of depression. She likely saved my life. She had no special training, just a kind heart and a willing ear. At the time, I didn’t realize the profound impact she had made. Our lives diverged, and I never heard from her again.

Recently, I finally decided to reach out and thank her, but unfortunately, an online search revealed her 10-year-old obituary. From the notes in the guest book, I discovered she had suffered many personal hardships throughout her adult life, which contributed to her early death.

Because I was not able to help her as she helped me, I want to pass along two important lessons I learned: (1) Thank people and tell them you care before it is too late, and (2) be willing to lend a hand and an ear to someone in need, because you may be that one person who affects their life. She had a saying I would like to share, which has guided my life: “Just open your ‘I’ and LIVE becomes LOVE.”

WITH LOVE IN MINNESOTA

## DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



**DEAR WITH LOVE:** I’m sorry for the loss of your caring and compassionate friend. I’m glad you took the time to write and share what a meaningful role she had in your life. That she made herself available to listen when you needed it is something more people should do because we live in a stressful society in which many individuals feel lost and alone. And I love her “motto”!

■ ■ ■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Pastimes

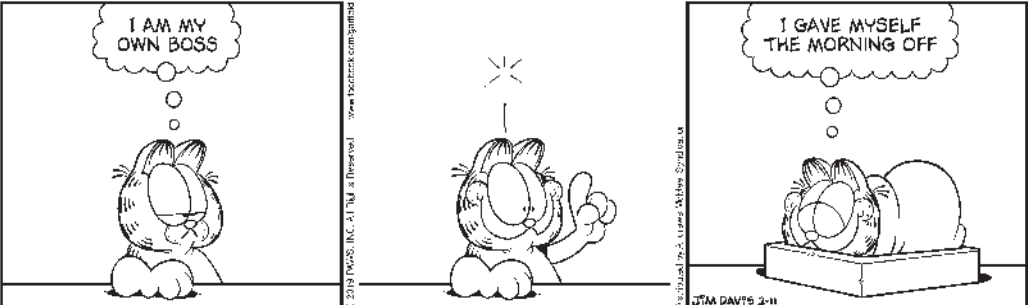
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



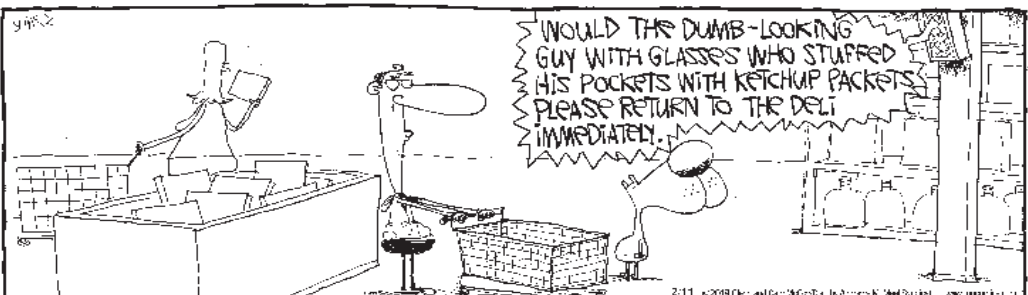
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

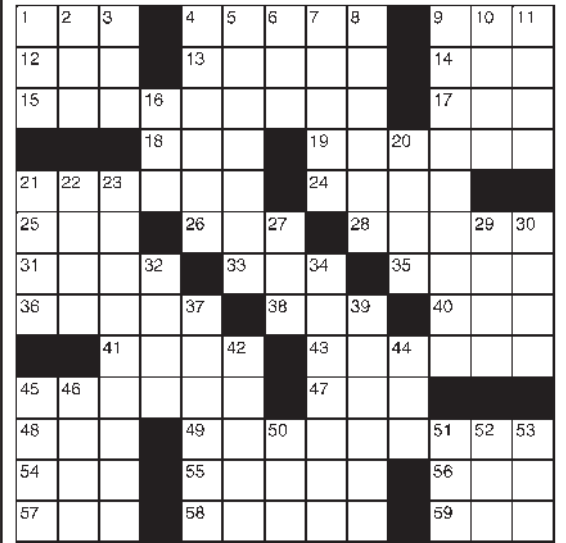


CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Dict. info 59 Marry 16 "— been had!" 40 Sundial 41 Hgt. 20 Num- bered rds. 43 Ancient 21 Woodland grazer 9 Attorney's field builders 3 "A spider!" 22 Leer at 45 Bale 47 Mineral suffix 23 Summa- ries 48 Days of yore 27 Went first 49 Sibelius 29 Primary 30 Tackles 15 Online work or vodka brand 32 Auction- eer's cry 17 Carefree 54 Blackbird 8 Patron- ize, as a hotel 34 Cecil B. — 18 By way of 55 Totally 9 New York airport 37 Arm's- length portrait 21 Museum tour guide 57 Goat's plaint 10 Now, in a memo 39 Femme — 24 — Hari 58 Lauder of cosmetics 11 Reasons 42 Ore layers 25 Swelled head 44 Longing 45 Smile broadly 26 Solidify 46 Forearm bone 50 Rebel Turner 28 Semes- ters 47 — de- France 51 Morning moisture 31 Stately trees 48 — 52 — de- France 53 Succor 33 Homer's neighbor 35 Mt. Rush- more's state 36 Seized vehicles

Solution time: 26 mins.

Last Friday's Answer 02-04



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Taylor Lautner, 27; Kelly Rowland, 38; Jennifer Aniston, 50; Sheryl Crow, 57.

Happy Birthday: Don't make excuses or take no for an answer. Be strong, dependable and ready to take on the world. Trust in your ability to get things done and to open doors that will allow you to reach your goals. It's up to you to make your life better, so don't expect someone to do the work for you. Your numbers are 5, 17, 22, 26, 30, 39, 41, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Learn something new. Open your eyes to new technology, and keep up with the times. Change can be made, but do so for the right reason, not for revenge or boredom. Make what you do count for something. \*\*\*

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll find it difficult to deal with an emotional situation. Don't leap when you should be taking a moment to consider how your words or actions will affect others. Show compassion, and be willing to work with those you encounter. \*\*\*

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Spend more time listening to others and assessing your situation and how best to deal with an opportunity. Time is on your side, and making the right move will make a difference in how you get along with others. \*\*\*

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your thoughts and feelings, and you will find out exactly where you stand. Don't hesitate to tell someone you love them or to make your intentions known. Your honesty will lead to

positive changes at work and at home. \*\*\* LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may want to change others, but perhaps it's you who needs to change. Don't force others to do things your way. Be sensitive to others' needs and go about your business, and you'll avoid interference. Keep in mind change begins with yourself. \*\*

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get out and mingle, network and discuss your thoughts with someone you respect. The information you pick up will help you bring about a change that will improve your life. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. Say no to poor influences. \*\*\*\*

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen carefully and do your own fact-checking. Look at the cost of things others want you to do. A change is good only if it doesn't put you in debt or cause additional stress. Do what's best for yourself. \*\*\*

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get together with people who have something to offer. The more you share, the more you will learn. Try something you've never done, and expand your knowledge, experience and interests. Love and romance will improve your life. \*\*\*

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do something energetic. Keep busy, help others and scout for new opportunities. You will meet people from all walks of life. Be wary of anyone offering vague information or who appears to be prying into your personal affairs. \*\*\*

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Share your thoughts about the way you want to live or the changes you want to make personally. Adjust your lifestyle to fit future plans to advance. An unusual offer should not be ignored. Romance is highlighted. \*\*\*\*

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Choose your words carefully and your actions with thoughtfulness. How you approach others will determine how well you will do and how far you will get. Hard work will pay off and encourage positive change and greater opportunities. \*\*

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Consider every angle of a situation before you make your move. Waste will be the result of taking on too much when less would have been sufficient. Good things can happen, but first you need to recognize what's entailed. \*\*\*\*

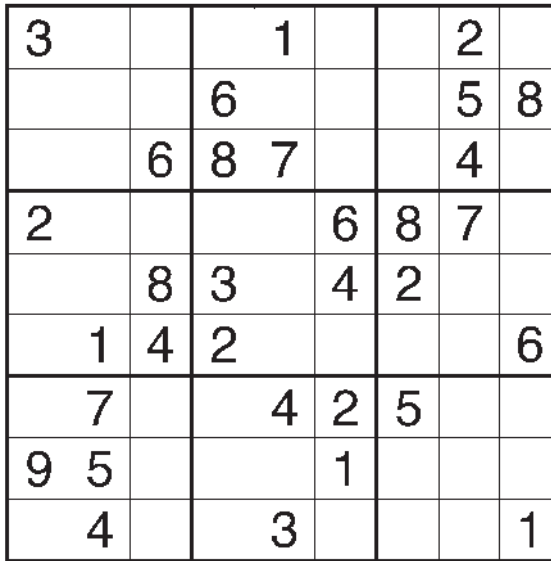
Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, curious and helpful. You are adventurous and intuitive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



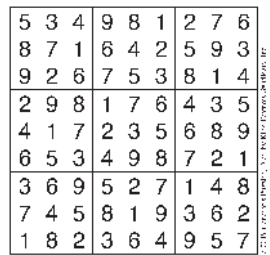
Difficulty Level ★

2/11

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



Difficulty Level \*\*\*\*

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DO YOU CROSS YOUR LEGS WHILE SITTING? Solution: 7 letters



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Action, Ages, Ankles, Back, Bent, Chair, Comfort, Desk, Dinner, Elegant, Extend, Feet, Feminine, Figure Four, Folded, Foot, Habit, Heels, Joints, Knee, Leaning, Legs, Lounge, Males, Muscles, Numb, Overlap, Photo, Position, Posture, Pressure, Reasons, Resting, Risks, Seated, Shoe, Sitting, Skirt, Slouch, Sock, Stance, Stand, Stretch, Subway, Tight, Train, Tucked

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
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Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814  
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net  
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net



Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 8 am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.

**AGENDA**

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (01/10/19)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
  - HCPLB Case 17-01-02-03
  - Dr. Krum Renewal Application
  - Complaint 18-001
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  - A. New Applications
  - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH  
Chairman

WHATZIT Solution: Flower bed




**Marianas Medical Center**  
is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following positions:

**(1) Director of Operations**  
Our family medical clinic is seeking for a U.S. qualified experienced **Director of Operations** to join our dynamic team. The Director of Operations is responsible for planning, directing and evaluating medical activities within the clinic. The major component of this position is to deliver high-quality patient services by managing the efficiencies of employees to ensure that they are functioning productively.

We are looking for individuals that have a Bachelor's degree in Healthcare Administration or relevant field; Master's degree in Healthcare Administration preferred with five (5) years of relevant experience, including two (2) years in a Supervisory role. Must have good communication skills, critical thinking skills and be proficient with Microsoft Office software.

**All positions close 5:00pm on Wednesday, February 13, 2019.**  
Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and/or professional licenses claimed. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Testing may be required for this position. Marianas Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
(In-House Promotion)

**OPENING DATE:** February 11, 2019 • **CLOSING DATE:** March 4, 2019  
**TIME:** 10:00 A.M.

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary:
2019-001	Planner	\$31,757.68 to \$35,012.57- per annum (Classified Position)

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447/6866 or by email to [jjmuna@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:jjmuna@nmhc.gov.mp). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director

Jesse Sablan  
P.O. Box 501990  
285-9032  
pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**


In The Matter :  
Of The :  
Adoption Of : FCD-AD-CIVIL  
ACTION NO.  
R. J. T. K. : 19-0054  
Minor Child :  
By : **NOTICE OF  
HEARING**  
Jesse Sablan :  
Petitioner(s) :

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing April 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m./p.m. in Courtroom MBP, before the Honorable Judge Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 30th day of January, 2019

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court  
/s/  
By: Deputy Clerk of Court





**Legislative Bureau**  
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE  
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-19-002**      **Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arm**  
**PL-UNGRADED: \$ 816.12 B/W**      **Opening Date: January 31, 2019**  
**\$ 21,219.07 Annual**      **Closing Date: February 21, 2019**

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee

**Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan**

General Duties:

- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Must complete a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- May undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.
- Undergo a pre-employment drug test

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. **Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at [www.cnmileg.gov.mp](http://www.cnmileg.gov.mp) or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

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# Giants president confirms 'mutual interest' with Harper



**SAN FRANCISCO**  
(AP)—

Just days away from the official start of spring training, free agent Bryce Harper's meeting with the Giants was confirmed by the club's president of baseball operations Farhan Zaidi.

"There's obviously mutual interest on both sides, so we thought it made sense to get together," Zaidi said. "We had a good conversation over a few hours and he's obviously got a lot of suitors and a lot of interest."

"He's going to have some decisions to make, but again I think it's fair to say that was an expression of our interest level to make the trip out there and meet with him."

The club met with Harper in his hometown of Las Vegas, news that was accidentally broken by a Giants fan who took a photo with club CEO Larry Baer in the Bellagio hotel earlier in the week.

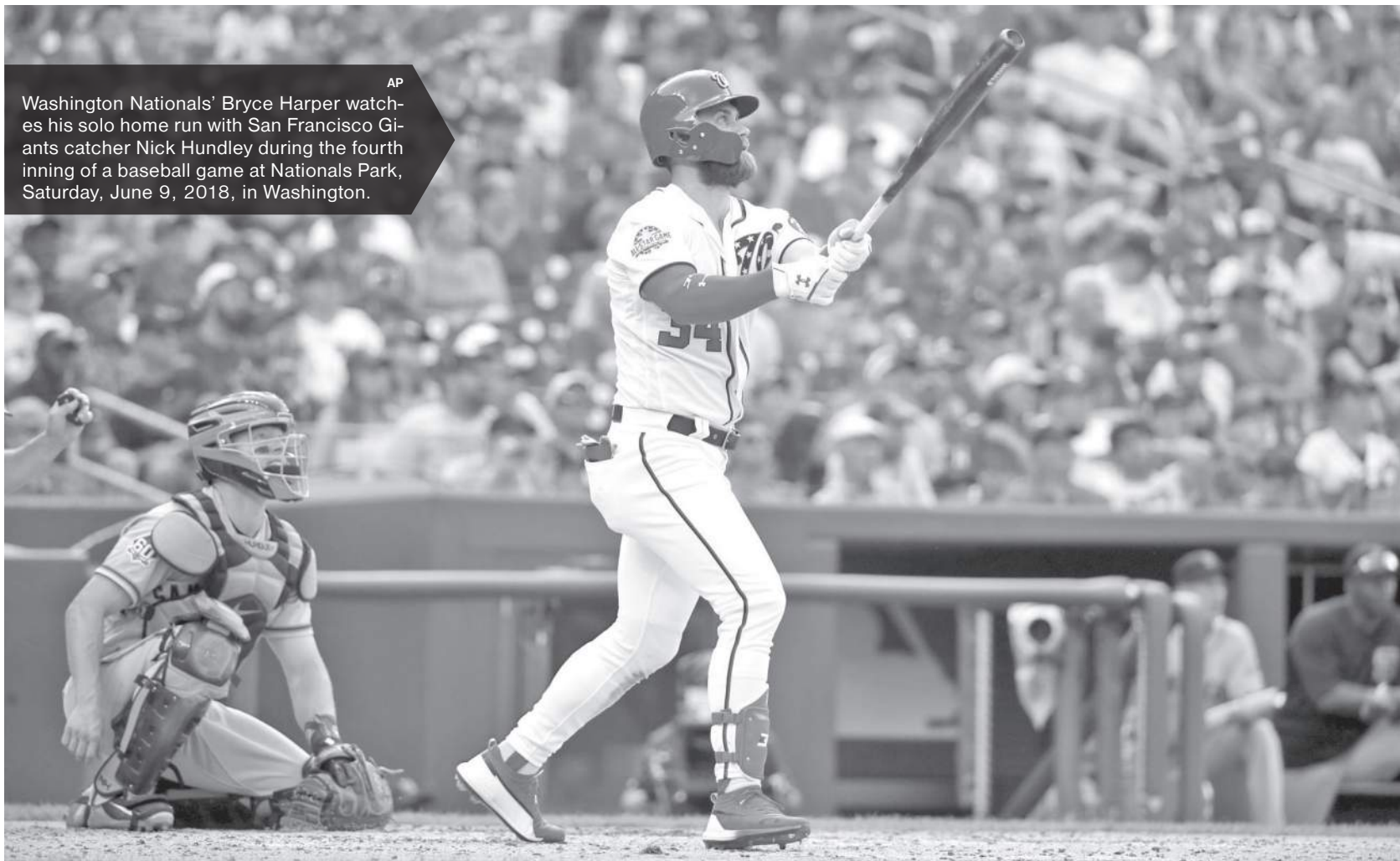
"It's kind of hard to deny when your CEO gets made in the casino," Zaidi said Friday.

San Francisco went 73-89 in 2018, finishing fourth in the NL West.

"Having kind of a face-to-face meeting gives you kind of a different level of being able to engage," Zaidi said. "Can't exactly deny that the meeting happened. But beyond that, not really going to have comment on the substance of the meeting beyond that obviously we have interest. You don't make a trip out there to meet with a player just for show."

Harper has a history with the Giants, brawling with reliever Hunter Strickland in 2017, a result of bad blood that began in the 2014 NLDS. Strickland is no longer with the team, having signed with the Mariners as a free agent in January.

In Milwaukee, Infielder



Washington Nationals' Bryce Harper watches his solo home run with San Francisco Giants catcher Nick Hundley during the fourth inning of a baseball game at Nationals Park, Saturday, June 9, 2018, in Washington.

Brett Lawrie, who hasn't played in the majors or minors since 2016, says he's reached a deal with the Brewers.

Lawrie posted the announcement on Instagram on Saturday.

The 29-year-old Lawrie hit .248 with 12 home runs and 36 RBIs for the White Sox in an injury-interrupted 2016. He is a career .261 hitter with 71 homers in six seasons with Toronto, Oakland and the White Sox.

Milwaukee drafted Lawrie in 2008 and traded him to Toronto after the 2010 season. He made his major league debut the next season and developed a reputation for being a fiery player.

In Minneapolis, the Minne-

sota Twins have agreed to minor league contracts with first baseman Lucas Duda and journeyman infielder Adam Rosales.

The Twins announced Saturday that Duda and Rosales had been invited to big league spring training.

Duda hit a combined .241 with 14 home runs and 50 RBIs for Kansas City and Atlanta last season. The 33-year-old is a career .242 hitter with 152 homers in nine seasons, including 30 home runs for the New York Mets and Tampa Bay in 2017.

If added to the 40-man roster, the 35-year-old Rosales would get a one-year contract paying a \$1 million salary while in the major leagues.

Rosales hit .211 in 13 games for Cleveland last year. He is a career .226 hitter with 48 home runs and 179 RBIs in 11 years with Cincinnati, Oakland, Texas, San Diego, Arizona and Cleveland.

Rosales has split time at all four infield spots.

In Cleveland, right-hander Alex Wilson has agreed to a minor league contract with the Indians and will report to big league spring training.

The 32-year-old had a 3.36 ERA in 59 games for Detroit last year, including a 0.71 ERA in his last 14 games. He has pitched in six big league seasons, two for Boston and the last four for the Tigers.

## Manfred: No DH or draft changes likely for 2019

**ORLANDO, Fla.** (AP)—Don't look for a National League designated hitter this year or for new anti-tanking rules in June's amateur draft.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said Friday that management is focused on pace-of-game changes for 2019 and bolder ideas proposed by the players' association are too complex to be put in place for this season.

Speaking Friday after an owners' meeting, Manfred felt encouraged the union responded to management's proposal for a pitch clock and a three-batter minimum for a relief pitcher unless an inning ends.

"Some of these items need to be part of broader discussions that certainly will continue after opening day, and I hope we can focus on some of the issues that need to get resolved quickly in the interim," Manfred said.

Baseball is in its third year of a five-year labor deal, one in which the free-agent market has slowed considerably—even with premier players available such as Bryce Harper and Manny Machado. Management would discuss larger changes as part of a deal for a new collective bargaining

agreement extending beyond December 2021.

"I hope and I really do believe that there is a common interest between the players' association, the players, the owners and the commissioner's office in changes, whether they're midterm or otherwise, that make our entertainment product the best it could possibly be," Manfred said.

After the 2016 and 2017 seasons, players rebuffed management's proposal for a pitch clock designed to speed the pace of play. Management has the right to implement a clock, but Manfred has been reluctant to make on-field changes without players' agreement.

Management presented its latest proposal Jan. 14, one that included a requirement that pitchers face at least three batters or finish an inning. Players responded Feb. 1 with a broader plan, renewing their push for the DH in all games, an earlier trade deadline aimed at discouraging teams with losing records from trading stars, increasing service time for top young stars called up early in the season and rewarding and penalizing teams in the draft based on their records.

"Those are significant economic issues. They are different in kind than the type of playing-rule changes that that we have out there," Manfred said. "I think that there are pieces of their response on the on-field proposal that were very encouraging. I think what needs to be sorted out is how closely the two agendas are tied, in other words, the on-field stuff and the economic stuff."

Last offseason, negotiations were hampered by player anger over the slow free-agent market. This offseason's pace of signings has been faster but remains far slower than most previous years.

"We want players signed, particularly star players. I wish they were signed and ready to go," Manfred said. "We got another week before they have to report. I'm really hopeful that it's going to get resolved during that period of time."

MLB's proposal that pitchers face a minimum of three batters in an inning unless it ends was designed both for pace and to slow or reverse the increased use of relievers. The union wants its use at the big league level delayed until 2020.

## Federer chasing titles, not top ranking

**GENEVA**— Roger Federer is no longer chasing the top ranking and would rather be a contender at Grand Slams than battling Novak Djokovic and Rafa Nadal to be world number one, the Swiss tennis great said on Friday.

The 20-times Grand Slam champion has held back the clock in the twilight of his remarkable career and became the ATP's oldest world number one last year a few weeks after clinching his sixth Australian Open at the age of 36.

Federer saw his bid for a seventh title at Melbourne Park crushed last month by up-and-coming Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas in the last 16 and having slipped to sixth in the rankings, he says his priorities have shifted.

"For me the ranking, at 37 years old, is no longer really the

priority," he told a news conference in Geneva.

"But the idea for me is to be in good health, to know that I can win tournaments, to know that I can beat them (Djokovic and Nadal), and after that it is a pleasure."

"As soon as you feel that you have no chance and all, then it's a problem. Even if my ranking goes down further, it's not a problem for me. As long as I say I can win a Grand Slam as I did two years ago with a world ranking of 17, everything is in place. I prefer to be ranked 17th than third and not win a Grand Slam or tournament."

Federer said he plans to play the Dubai Championships in February and Masters events in Indian Wells and Miami in March before deciding which

tournaments he would play in the leadup to the French Open.

Federer, speaking at a launch for the Laver Cup which is being held in Geneva from Sept. 20-22, hoped that compatriot Stan Wawrinka and world number one Djokovic would join him and Spaniard Nadal on the European team.

Federer, who is from Basel, said he was happy to be back in Switzerland for a few weeks, spending time with friends and family while training.

Sweden's Bjorn Borg is captain of the Europe team at the event named after Australian tennis great Rod Laver.

Nadal has announced he will join his perennial rival in the Laver Cup, which pits the best of Europe against a world team still to be named.





# Westbrook ties Wilt's record in win vs Rockets



**HOUSTON (AP)**—Paul George said it took a fiery halftime discussion to help the Oklahoma City Thunder overcome the largest deficit they've seen all season.

"We just knew we had to have a better second half," George said. "Being down that much at the half, that's not the team we are. We know this team very well and we knew that wasn't us. So we had to come in here and talk and just light a fire under this team and we did that."

George scored 45 points, Russell Westbrook matched the NBA record with his ninth straight triple-double and Oklahoma City overcame a 26-point deficit to beat the Houston Rockets 117-112 on Saturday night.

It was Oklahoma City's largest comeback victory.

"We just never got into any flow, but then I thought once we got some stops, we got out in transition," Thunder coach Billy Donovan said. "Obviously, Paul with what he did tonight was phenomenal, the way he played. And he was on (James) Harden a lot. He was unbelievable tonight on both ends of the floor."

Defensively, George fought through screens in the final minute to stay on Harden.

"I look forward to playing against the best," George said. "That's how I was taught the game—just enjoy matchups and have fun with it."

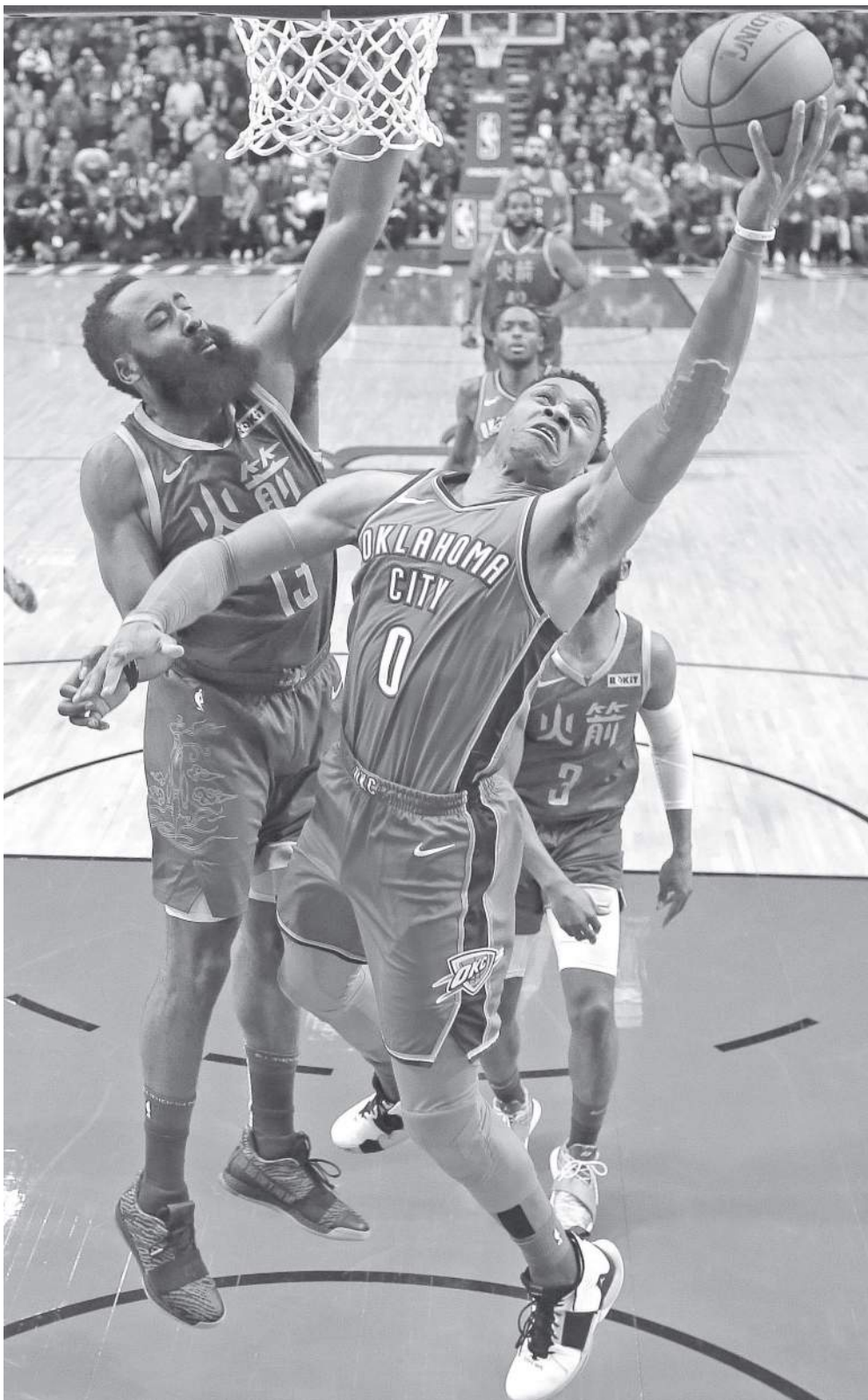
Westbrook had 21 points, 11 assists and 12 rebounds to match the record streak set by Wilt Chamberlain in 1968. Westbrook has 22 triple-doubles this season and 126 overall. He also had 10 turnovers and was 8 of 21 from the field.

"It's really incredible," Donovan said. "It took whatever it was, 60 years, until somebody did it just to show you how hard it is to do and how unique of a player he is to be able to do it."

Harden led the Rockets with 42 points, reaching 30 points for the 29th straight game—two shy of Chamberlain for the second-longest streak in NBA history, but far behind Chamberlain's record run of 65 games. Harden was 11 for 28 from the field, going 6 of 16 from 3-point range, and made 14 of 15 free throws.

The 26-point deficit was Oklahoma City's largest of the season.

Westbrook gave the Thunder a one-point lead with a driving layup with 26.9 seconds remaining. On the following possession, Harden missed a 3-pointer, and George got the rebound and was fouled with 3.4 seconds



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) drives to the basket as Houston Rockets guard James Harden defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019, in Houston. Oklahoma City won, 117-112.

and time in 14 games.

Eric Bledsoe had 19 points for Milwaukee.

## Hornets 129, Hawks 120

In Atlanta, Kemba Walker hit nine 3-pointers and scored 37 points, Marvin Williams added 27 points and Charlotte beat Atlanta to snap a two-game skid.

Jeremy Lamb had 24 points to help the Hornets win for the eighth time in their last 13 games.

John Collins had 21 points and Trae Young added 20 for the Hawks.

## Jazz 125, Spurs 105

In Salt Lake City, Donovan Mitchell scored 23 points, Rudy Gobert had 21 points and 13 rebounds and Utah beat San Antonio.

Royce O'Neale tied his season high with 17 points and made all four of his 3-point attempts, and Ricky Rubio had 16 points, six rebounds and six assists to help the Jazz win for the third time in four games.

## Pacers 105, Cavaliers 90

Indianapolis, Bojan Bogdanovic scored 23 points and Indiana beat Cleveland for its fifth straight victory.

Darren Collison added 18 points, Myles Turner had 14 points and eight rebounds and Domantas Sabonis added 13 points and 10 rebounds. Jordan Clarkson led the Cavaliers with 18 points.

## Wizards 134, Bulls 125

In Chicago, Bradley Beal scored 31 points to help Washington beat Chicago in the first meeting between the teams since they swapped three forwards in a multiplayer trade.

The Wizards got Jabari Parker, Bobby Portis and a protected 2023 second-round pick from the Bulls on Wednesday for Otto Porter Jr. Parker scored 20 points and Portis had 10 points and 12 rebounds against their former team, helping Washington to a 64-38 advantage in bench points.

## Grizzlies 99, Pelicans 90

In Memphis, Joakim Noah had season highs of 19 points and 14 rebounds to lead new-look Memphis past New Orleans.

Justin Holiday had 15 points and Jaren Jackson Jr. finished with 14 points, 10 of them in the fourth. C.J. Miles, playing his first game for Memphis added 13 points to help the Grizzlies win for the third time in four games.

## LeBron has no ulterior motive with eyebrow-raising All-Star draft

As the dust settled from the first publicly televised NBA All-Star draft, there was a single narrative around the rosters that was obvious to even a casual NBA observer. LeBron James had filled his team with players his Los Angeles Lakers are going to be quite interested in this summer.

With his first three picks, James took Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving and Kawhi Leonard, all in line to be free agents this offseason. With his first reserve pick, he took Anthony Davis, a player for whom the Lakers were ready to trade their entire young core plus a little more.

If James wants to use All-Star weekend as a way to privately speak to the Lakers' offseason targets and pitch them on the team, he certainly has the roster to do it. Even James' draft opponent Giannis Antetokounmpo jokingly called out the AD pick as "tampering."

To be fair, the strength of James' roster reinforces his point quite well. By most accounts, James smoked Antetokounmpo in the draft. His roster includes the entire All-NBA first team from last

season, and that doesn't even include two of his first three picks in Leonard and Irving.

NBA TV analysts went so far as to speculate the Greek Freak tanked the draft so he could win MVP.

Sure, James took the likely top free agent in this year's offseason in Durant, but he also probably took the top player in the draft in Durant. As the Golden State Warriors star put it succinctly, "What else is he supposed to do?" The same goes for the Davis pick. You don't need an ulterior motive to value Anthony Davis over the other All-Star reserves.

For all the tampering talk, it important we remember that this is LeBron James. If he wanted to talk to a prospective Laker, he could find an easier and a lot less public way than drafting them for the NBA All-Star game. Davis in particular would be quite easy as they share the same agent.

If anything, James' team was probably less about tampering and more of a joke about tampering. But most importantly, it's hard to argue it's not a really good All-Star roster.

left. He made both free throws put Oklahoma City up three. Houston turned it over on the following inbound play.

George made 12 of 22 shots, hit 6 of 14 3-pointers and made 15 of 18 free throws to finish four points shy of his career-high 49 points set in 2013 with Indiana.

The Thunder made seven of their first eight shots in the third quarter to quickly cut Houston's lead in half. Oklahoma City outscored Houston 42-20 in the quarter to even the score at 90.

"We knew to get back into the game, we had to defend at a high level," Westbrook said. "We got stops and won a big game on the road."

Oklahoma City fell into a deep hole in the first half following a sizzling second quarter from the Rockets. After dominating Sacramento 44-17 in the second quarter of a 127-101 win in their previous game on Wednesday night, the Rockets outscored the Thunder 42-23 on Saturday night.

## Clippers 123, Celtics 112

In Boston, Montrezl Harrell forced two turnovers in the final two minutes and Patrick Beverley hit a pair of 3-pointers in front of the Boston bench night and retooled Los Angeles overcome a 28-point deficit.

One game after the Lakers rallied from 18 points down to win in Boston on Rajon Rondo's buzzer-beater—and six days after the Patriots beat the Rams in the Super Bowl—the Clippers turned the "Beat L.A.!" chants to boos. The Celtics collapse corresponded to the loss of Kyrie Irving, who left with a sprained knee in the second quarter, when the game seemed comfortably in hand.

Harrell scored 21 points, Danilo Gallinari had 19 points and 10 rebounds and trade deadline acquisition Landry Shamet scored 17 points.

Gordon Hayward scored 19 points and Jayson Tatum and Terry Rozier had 16 apiece for Boston.

## Raptors 104, Knicks 99

In New York, Marc Gasol had seven points and six rebounds in his Toronto debut and the Raptors sent New York to its 16th straight loss.

Acquired from Memphis before Thursday's trade deadline, Gasol played 19 minutes. The three-time All-Star entered late in the first quarter and made a hook shot on his first try.

Kyle Lowry scored 22 points, and Serge Ibaka added 15 points and 13 rebounds for the Raptors. Rookie Kevin Knox had 20 points for New York. The Knicks have lost 29 of their last 31 games.

## Magic 103, Bucks 83

In Milwaukee, Jonathan Isaac scored 17 points, Nikola Vucevic and Terrence Ross each added 15 and Orlando snapped Milwaukee's six-game winning streak.

The NBA-leading Bucks played without All-Star forward Giannis Antetokounmpo. He sat out with right knee soreness. They lost for just the sec-



# Planning already happening for Mahomes contract



**KANSAS CITY, Mo.**  
(AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs are already planning their future around signing quarterback Patrick Mahomes to a long-term contract, even though the NFL MVP won't be eligible to sign an extension until after next season.

Chiefs general manager Bret Veach said during a wide-ranging interview that some of the financial decisions made dating back to last offseason were done with Mahomes in mind, such as the way the franchise structured contracts and how they approached free agency and the draft.

"We were prepared for Pat to have success and be a franchise quarterback," Veach said, "so this process of structuring ourselves for the next three, four, five years started about a year ago."

In the ensuing 12 months, the Chiefs traded incumbent quarterback Alex Smith to Washington and handed the job to Mahomes, who threw for more than 5,000 yards along with 50 touchdown passes while leading the club to its third straight AFC West title and the conference championship game.

The Chiefs lost in overtime to the Patriots, a defeat made even more frustrating by the fact that Kansas City lost the coin flip and Mahomes never had a chance with the ball in the extra session.

Off the field, Mahomes has become one of the NFL's biggest stars.

With his moppy Mohawk, earnest attitude and game-



AP  
Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) passes against Oakland Raiders linebacker Tahir Whitehead (59) during the second half of an NFL football game in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018.

changing ability, Mahomes became must-watch TV by the end of the season. He had the eighth-best selling jersey in the NFL, has been courted by a wave of sponsors and has led Las Vegas odds-makers to peg the Chiefs as Super Bowl favorites next season.

Some suggest Mahomes could ultimately sign the first \$200 million contract in NFL history when he is eligible for an extension after next season.

"Even last year, we were putting a plan together," Veach said. "I think we have a good plan, and everything we do structure-wise will allow for necessary room mov-

ing forward."

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers set the market with a \$134 million, four-year extension last offseason, while Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan signed a \$150 million, five-year deal. Rodgers has the average highest salary while Ryan had the highest signing guarantee of \$94.5 million.

Whatever it takes, Veach is intent on making sure the Chiefs have flexibility to do it.

"Obviously there's tremendous talent, and we had seen obviously a chance to see a lot of his work in college, and we saw all last year," Veach said. "You knew it was inevi-

table it was coming. But what surprised me was the ease at which he did it. Even great players when they're young, you anticipate a wall at some point after seven, eight weeks, but there was never really a time."

Meanwhile, in Miami, former Colts and Lions coach Jim Caldwell has been hired by new Dolphins coach Brian Flores as assistant head coach and quarterbacks coach.

Caldwell was among 16 members of Flores' staff announced Friday. The group includes new offensive coordinator Chad O'Shea and defensive coordinator Patrick

Graham, both former Patriots assistants.

Flores joined the Patriots in 2004 and was the defensive play-caller for this season's Super Bowl championship team. He became the Dolphins' coach on Monday.

Also joining Flores' staff are Danny Crossman as special teams coordinator, Josh Boyer as defensive pass game coordinator and cornerbacks coach, Karl Dorrell as receivers coach, Pat Flaherty as offensive line coach, George Godsey as tight ends coach, Marion Hobby as defensive line coach, Rob Leonard as linebackers coach, Tony Oden

as safeties coach, Jerry Schuplinski as assistant quarterbacks coach and Eric Stutesville as running backs coach.

O'Shea, Boyer and Schuplinski worked for the Patriots this past season.

Flores hired three quality control coaches—Josh Grizzard, Matt Lombardi and Tiquan Underwood. Oden, Stutesville and Grizzard were retained from Adam Gase's 2018 Miami staff.

Caldwell has 17 years of NFL coaching experience. In his seven seasons as head coach of the Colts (2009-11) and Lions (2014-17), he led teams to four playoff berths.

## PEBBLE BEACH, Calif.

(AP)—Bill Murray met a pair of baby kangaroos from the Monterey Zoo. Jerry Kelly tried to mimic the peculiar post-swing moves of Ho Sung Choi. Jordan Spieth sent players and fans along two fairways on a frantic search for his tee shot.

All that commotion on celebrity Saturday at Pebble Beach, and Paul Casey missed it all.

He was over at Spyglass Hill, putting together another solid round in the sunshine, rain, cold and wind. Casey had a 5-under 67 and quietly built a three-shot lead over Phil Mickelson going into the final round of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Mickelson delivered plenty of golf entertainment at Pebble Beach, particularly a wedge into 3 feet on the 13th for birdie and a 4-iron he crushed with the wind at his back to 4 feet for an eagle that turned his fortunes, led to a 2-under 70 and put him in good shape

## Casey leads by 3 over Mickelson at Pebble Beach

for a shot to match Mark O'Meara's record of five titles at the AT&T Pebble Beach.

"I thought anything in the 60s was going to be a heck of a round, and I was one shy," Mickelson said. "But I've got a good chance going into tomorrow. I'm looking forward to it." History might be on Lefty's side.

Casey, who was at 15-under 200, has never won in his three previous times with a 54-hole lead on the PGA Tour. Those all occurred in the last three years, and while he was beaten by great closing rounds of great players, Casey shot 2-over par or worse.

But that was the least of his concerns.

"I am having a blast," said Casey, who last year rallied to win the Valspar Championship during the Florida swing.

He made his PGA Tour debut 18 years ago at Pebble

Beach, missing the cut with Seth Waugh, now the chief executive of the PGA of America. He played again, and then he didn't return for 16 years. Part of that was his European Tour membership, with events in the Middle East. Some of it was injury. Some of it was weather.

"There are two factors," he said. "One is the weather. If you have great weather, this is one of the best places on the planet. And two, if you have the right partner, it can be wonderful. I can at least guarantee one of those elements."

He is playing with Don Collier, the chief sales officer at FedEx, and they have a four-shot lead in the pro-am.

The other factor? Not so much.

Saturday began under a blue sky and a sunshine beaming

down on the Monterey Peninsula. Those patchy clouds of the horizon were part of a painting. They moved in quickly, dropping temperatures 10 degrees, causing flags to whip and rain to spray.

That's not what stopped Spieth.

He was tied for the lead after a birdie on the par-3 fifth hole and remained in range of Casey until the final six holes.

His downfall began with a shot on the 13th hole he yanked so badly he figured it was in the bunker on the left side of the ninth fairway. It wasn't there. The ball in the first cut of rough? That belonged to Adam Scott's amateur partner. Spieth even went down to the edge of the Pacific to look, and panic began to set in.

"Um, if you all could check around you for a ball, that would

be really helpful," he said.

With under a minute left in the new three-minute search, it was spotted 140 yards back toward the tee beneath a tree it struck.

Spieth made double bogey, and then another double bogey on the 18th hole when he pulled his tee shot off the rocks and into the ocean. He shot a 74 and went from in the hunt to eight shots behind. He didn't feel he was hiding the ball as well as the first two days, so it was a matter of time.

"It was going to bite me at some point," Spieth said. "I didn't necessarily deserve to be a couple under par at the time, and so it ended up kind of haunting me there. ... I drove the ball well the last two days, and then today my driver just didn't behave at all. It was a 150-yard spread on either side and that's not good around Pebble Beach."

Lucas Glover had a birdie-bogey finish at Monterey Peninsula for a 1-under 70 and was at 11-under 204, along with Scott Piercy (69 at Spyglass Hill).

Casey was recently in the news for a tournament he didn't play, the Saudi International, a new event on the European Tour that came under scrutiny for Saudi Arabia's human rights record and the recent killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

He was on the original list of commitments without his approval, and said he was never going. Casey is an ambassador for UNICEF and has the logo on his golf bag, which he displayed on an Instagram post to confirm he was not playing.

"I stand firm on what I said," Casey said.

He is more interested in what he can accomplish Sunday at a tournament that, with reasonable weather and an enjoyable amateur partner, he has come to enjoy.





# Tsunami Saipan swimmers attend sports science clinic



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Takahiro Yoshida, right, poses with Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan members and coach Hiro Kimura, left, after completing a sports science clinic last Feb. 2 at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan pool.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROY**  
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REPORTER

Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan members attended a sports science clinic conducted by a former coach of Japan junior national swim team, making them learn more about their strengths and how to use them to boost their performance.

Takahiro Yoshida, with the assistance of fellow coach Yasu Shibatsuji, introduced the Five Senses Effect Method

to Tsunami Saipan swimmers in the clinic held early this month at the Pacific Islands Club pool and Kinpachi Restaurant with the event focusing on identifying the participants' "winning color."

"Each person has its own 'winning color.' A color whose muscular strength rises, a color whose body becomes soft, a color which load is applied. FSEM utilizes cranial nerve reactions to produce higher performance. At this lecture, we tried 13 kinds color goggles

and had 'your best and worst color' found. Then, we learn how to use it for usual practice and actual race," Yoshida said.

Each swimmer reacted to the color shown to them and the instructor explain and access their reactions and how these reflect the way they swim.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers had different responses to the clinic, but they were united in saying the event helped them rediscover themselves and become mentally strong.

"FSEM was an eye-opening event. It showed us how we are better than we think we are and there is a way to unlock our stronger self. I'm grateful the coaches came to share knowledge with us and let us experience new things," Ashley Dangol said.

"Even though we are not in a best situation, as we are still without our 50-meter pool, this clinic helped us find our best and worst colors. Experiencing and knowing this will make us stronger mentally and be ready for a competition," Juhn Tenorio added.



The clinic, according to Joseph Zhang and Aika Watanabe, helped him realized how he can control his reaction to things

"I was amazed at how my facial expression could control my strength and stability. I was excited and surprised to learn that my best color contributes to my best performance; with stronger pull, better breathing, and more relaxation," Zhang said.

"I think FSEM was an amazing and a very important experience that I had. I've never thought that color would affect our conditions, and I was very surprised when it did," Watanabe, the Tsunami Saipan vice captain, said.

Meanwhile, Yoshida was impressed with the responses of Tsunami Saipan swimmers.

"The sense of everyone was so sharp. I can say their sense is sharper than same age Japanese swimmers. Saipan swimmer's reaction was so pure, natural and honest. FSEM will be useful for Saipan swimmers. It is one of the opportunities to talk with your body," said Yoshida, who



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tsunami Saipan members pick goggles before swimming.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tsunami Saipan swimmers try on goggles that suit them before heading into the pool.

is among the top FSEM researches in the world.

Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura was also present at the clinic and thanked the visiting

Japanese for sharing their knowledge to the swimmers. Kimura also thanked Tasi Tours, Kinpachi Restaurant, and PIC Saipan for hosting them.

## SEEDED

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singles—No. 2 seed Serin Chung and No. 3 Helen Kim won their opening matches last Saturday. Serin was paired against Yebin Shin and cruised to a 6-0, 6-0 triumph, while Kim also needed only two sets to win over Ye Jin Son, 6-2, 6-1.

In the boys U16 singles, the event is down to four players—No. 1 Sam Ryu, No. 4 Andy Kim, No. 3 Maria Gregoire, and the unranked Eugene Park.

Park pulled off an upset last Sunday after ousting No. 2 seed

Daniel Kang, 6-1, 6-3. Park earlier edged Hyunmin Cho, 6-3, 6-4, for a quarterfinal matchup against Kang, who drew a bye in the first round. Next up for Park is Gregoire, who barged into the semis after a 6-3, 6-1 triumph over Isaac Heo—a 6-3, 6-0 winner against Gang Min Kim at the bottom half of the draw.

At the top half, Andy Kim shut down Daniel Heo for a semis showdown against Ryu, who eliminated Jun Wang, 6-1, 6-1. Wang earned the right to meet Ryu in the quarterfinals after sweeping Jaehoon Son, 6-1, 6-0.

community," Eagles coach Cesar Libut said. "Players, along with Youth on the Rock, spent time helping the community clear their yards of debris and segregate them."

Though Yutu robbed GCA and other schools of practice time after the storm passed, Libut said that the Eagles' hands-on involvement on the island's recovery process helped them gel in an unconventional way.

"Even if there were less practices, they learned communication, trust, and teamwork [through the recovery process], which are great qualities to have to win championships," the GCA mentor said.

More than a month after Yutu flattened the island and with the affected residents still scrambling to bounce back, GCA and other participat-

ing schools thought the high school competition will be scrapped this season.

"We were worried and wondering if they would still have the CCOPSA league," Lady Eagles captain Jasmine Phan. "Thankfully they did."

Phan and company went on to defend their title after outclassing Saipan International School in the finals last week, 22-25, 25-22, 15-9.

"These girls have the heart to play," Phan said. "They may be a little scared, but they just need a little push to get through any obstacles."

Like the Lady Eagles, GCA's boys team also overcame setbacks during their championship run.

"The typhoon really held us back," captain Joshua Pajarillaga said. "Because of all

the things that needed to be rebuilt, we were not able to practice for a short while."

Pajarillaga and his teammates then had to work double time to make up for the lost training hours and get ready for the season.

"We had to practice a lot. Everyone on the team wanted the same thing—to win," Pajarillaga said. "We also knew that if we wanted to win, we needed to work for it...Thankfully, everyone did their best to show up [to practice] and make up for practices they couldn't attend."

The Eagles' efforts were rewarded when they toppled the mighty Geckos in two closely fought sets, 25-20, 25-23, in last Thursday's finale and GCA went on to complete its impressive triple-championship run.

"I am thankful for being

the coach of these three GCA teams that have won the championships," Libut said.

Phan and Pajarillaga added that they are blessed and proud to be part of this great achievement.

"It feels amazing to know how much the school, as a whole, has accomplished this year," Phan said. "It truly is a blessing."

"I was waiting for this moment for about three years," Pajarillaga said when asked about the number of tries it took for GCA to sweep the three titles. "Finally winning for our school in all three tournaments is amazing, and I'm so glad that I was able to see it happen and to be a part of it."

Libut is also overflowed with gratitude and thanked those who have been part of the success of GCA's volley-

ball program.

"I would like to thank our players for their dedication and trust in me, and our wonderful parents who have given their full support to the kids," Libut said. "I would also like to thank the GCA administration, staff, and faculty for their support, especially to Mrs. Beth Nunez (principal) and Mrs. Susan Pajarillaga (vice principal)."

"I would also like to thank my wife, Mrs. Rowena, for her support, encouragement, and prayer for me and the team, and of course my daughter, Ellaizah, and son, AJ, for helping train our players, and especially my granddaughter LJ for her inspiration," Libut said. "But above all, I would like to thank our God Almighty for His guidance, provision, and protection for the team."

## GCA

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surging Agape Christian School squad in a three-set finale, 25-19, 22-25, 15-9, last Jan. 15. The youngest of GCA's teams was not only tasked with keeping the red-hot Torchbearers at bay, but also assigned to help the community in its recovery efforts from Super Typhoon Yutu.

The GCA-Agape finals match was originally scheduled for Oct. 23, but was rescheduled to Jan. 15 due to the storm. Then after Yutu mangled the island, GCA players diverted their attention away from volleyball activities to prioritize aiding residents in clearing debris from their properties.

"[After the storm], our focus changed to helping the com-





Giants president confirms 'mutual interest' with Harper

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Westbrook ties Wilt's record in win vs Rockets

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Seeded players advance

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

No upset in the men's singles event of the 2019 White Coconut Tennis Classic, as seeded players marched on after sweeping their respective opponents at the American Memorial Park over the weekend.

No. 2 seed Ji Min Woo advanced to the semifinals after downing Tania Tan, 6-0, 6-0, in their quarterfinals game at the lower half of the draw. Tan, earlier, set up a duel with Woo for a semis ticket after outclassing Allan Lee, 6-1,

6-0. Joining Woo in the Final Four are No. 3 seed Jeff Race and No. 4 Sean Lee

Lee defeated Vincent Tudela, 6-3, 6-3, to arrange a semis showdown against Woo. Tudela, before bowing to Lee, first topped Gerald Boyer, 6-1,

6-0. Race also took two sets to make it to the semifinals after dominating Gary Ramsey, 6-1, 6-0, and the former will challenge either No.1 Robbie Schorr or Malika Miyawaki for the finals berth at the top half of the draw. Schorr, who



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sean Lee is among the seeded players in the men's singles event of the 2019 White Coconut Classic and he made it to the semifinals after beating Vincent Tudela yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

just arrived from a series of tournaments in New Zealand yesterday morning, will play Miyawaki this Saturday for the fourth and last semis berth in the division.

Meanwhile, in the boys U14 singles, Anthony Gregoire is ahead in the round-robin

contest after earning a 2-0 record. The No. 2 seed Gregoire prevailed over Cory Lee last Saturday, 6-1, 6-0, and then beat Andrew Chung yesterday, 6-3, 6-0.

No. 1 seed David Kwon also got a victory yesterday af-



ter sweeping Eubin Park, 6-1, 6-0, while the latter had a 1-1 record, as he downed Andrew Chung last Saturday, 6-2, 6-3.

In another round-robin competition—the girls U14

See SEEDED on Page 26

## GCA earns trifecta



ROBY N. PAMINTUAN

Grace Christian Academy's girls high school team and coach Cesar Libut, eighth from left, pose with their championship trophy.



ROBY N. PAMINTUAN

Grace Christian Academy's co-ed middle school squad and coach Cesar Libut are all smiles after receiving their trophy.



By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN  
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Grace Christian Academy recorded a rare feat, as it swept all three championships in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League, battling through formidable opponents and



ROBY N. PAMINTUAN

Grace Christian Academy's boys high school team and coach Cesar Libut proudly display their championship trophy.

other obstacles en route to securing a trifecta this season.

The first of the Eagles' three titles was courtesy of

their co-ed middle school team, which survived the

See GCA on Page 26